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Local p/3

Centre issues cellphone warning

Billions of barrels of oil in Arctic: Report

RESOURCES A new study suggests the equivalent of 112 billion barrels of oil lies undiscovered underneath the sea ice and frigid waters of North America's Arctic, adding new urgency to the debate over control of those resources.

The report released yesterday by the United States Geological Survey has for the first time put some hard numbers behind the energy potential of the North.

Total undiscovered global reserves north of the Arctic Circle are estimated at 412 billion barrels of oil equivalent — most off the coast of Russia. That's about one-third of the world's undiscovered gas and about one-sixth of its undiscovered oil.

The 112 billion equivalent off North America is likely to be composed of 49 billion barrels of oil, 340 trillion cubic feet of gas and another two billion barrels of natural gas liquids. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Olympics **Maple Leaf forever**

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Adam van Koeverden, who was selected to carry the Canadian flag at the Beijing Summer Games opening ceremonies, speaks at a media conference yesterday at the Royal York Hotel. More coverage, page 12

Billions coming for infrastructure

$7B federal investment to boost Ontario's economy

The federal government will pump almost $7 billion into Ontario's aging infrastructure — most of it in towns and cities — under a deal with Queen's Park to be announced today.

Federal representatives say the big investment will help cushion Ontario's economic woes, and the new cash will mean construction projects and more jobs for the struggling province.

"At a time of economic challenge, at a time when the auto industry is problematic in Ontario ... can you imagine what $7 billion will do? Seven billion (dollars) will create jobs, create projects, hire people to do these projects," a senior federal official said yesterday.

"Can you imagine what $7 billion will do? Seven billion (dollars) will create jobs, create projects, hire people to do these projects."
Senior federal official

"It's a major shot in the arm for Ontario," the official said. "This government is investing what it takes."

Ottawa's share of the $2-billion extension of the Spadina subway will be partially funded from the cash to be confirmed today.

When matching contributions from the province and municipalities are added, the infrastructure investments could top $21 billion under the funding program, which will run to 2014.

The deal could also mark a political détente in the squabbling between the Conservative government in Ottawa and Liberals in Ontario. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Perfect weather: If you're a duck

The rainiest June and July in city records has made Toronto the country's soggiest city this summer, and has put 2008 on the fast track to be the city's wettest year ever.

Morning showers and flash afternoon storms yesterday brought Toronto's two-month rain tally up to 272.8 mm (10.7 inches) as of 2 p.m. yesterday, eclipsing the previous record for the same period with eight days left to go.

The two months of regular downpour made Toronto the only city shattering summer rain records. It also makes us the rainiest area in the country over that time, said Dave Phillips, Environment Canada's senior climatologist.

With the GTA covering 5,903 square kilometres, the area has seen more than 3.5 million cubic metres worth of rain this year. That's more than enough to overflow two empty Rogers Centres.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Record

- On average, Toronto records 792.7 mm of precipitation each year. But with 623.6 mm as of yesterday afternoon, we could eclipse the previous full-year record of 971.3 mm, which was set in 1977.

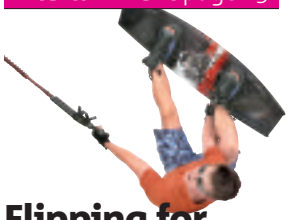
MARK BERGIN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Natalie Lambert fell victim to the recent wet weather when her attempt to swim across Lake Ontario was cut short due to a thunderstorm. She was seven kilometres from the Toronto shoreline.

Business page 11

Wage gains erased by higher prices

Entertainment page 29



Flipping for Wakestock

Sports page 14

Simon says, 'Goodbye, Roger'

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Alleged killer remanded in custody
The man accused of brutally slaying a Mississauga woman was remanded in custody yesterday. Karina Neff was stabbed to death Monday night in Windy Hollow Park. Jason Osborne, 22, has been charged with first-degree murder. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Thousand more stolen bikes found

Another thousand stolen bicycles — ranging from $4,000 LeMonde racing bikes to kids' tricycles and a scooter for a disabled rider — were recovered from rented garages yesterday after police executed three more raids across the west downtown. The garages were all rented by Igor Kenk, 49, owner of the Bicycle Clinic on Queen Street West, 14 Division Police Supt. Ruth White told reporters yesterday. Kenk was already facing more than 60 charges related to alleged bike thefts before yesterday's discoveries.

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Tomorrow's Metro

Great X-pectations

Six years after the hit TV show The X Files ended, Fox Mulder and Dana Scully are back on the big screen in The X-Files: I Want to Believe. Read our review in Metro Movies to find out if it was worth the wait.

metronews.ca

What's online today.

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Check movie showtimes, trailers and reviews at metronews.ca/movies
Search for jobs using Metro's Workopolis search
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Legal

Ex-bus driver's video shown

DRUNK DRIVING A former school bus driver facing drinking and driving charges told police he was not a drinker and offered to take a blood test to prove he wasn't drunk, according to a police video. Crown attorney Elena Middlecamp played a video in court yesterday that showed Jerry McNeill talking to Staff Sgt. Keith Haines at a police station. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kids urged to keep off cell

U.S. cancer centre advisory cites Toronto Public Health warning

The head of a U.S. cancer centre is urging that children not use cellphones, except in emergencies, because of a growing body of literature pointing to possible adverse health effects, including cancer.

The warning comes on the heels of similar recommendations from Toronto Public Health. The city's chief medical officer advised that children use landline phones when possible, limit their time on calls, and use headsets.

Dr. Ronald Herberman, director of the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, cited Toronto Public Health's warning and similar recommendations from France, Germany and India, in issuing his own advisory.

61 per cent of 12- to 19-year-olds in Canada have a cellphone, according to Solutions Research Group.

"Although the evidence is still controversial, I am convinced that there are sufficient data to warrant issuing an advisory to share some precautionary advice on cellphone use," he wrote in a memo to centre staff, citing a "growing body of literature" drawing a link between cellphone use and possible health effects.

Some experts say children are more affected by cellphones because of their thinner skin and skull bones.

The wireless industry insists there are no harmful effects from using their products, maintaining that parents can, if they wish, take their own precautionary measures.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Court allows parking lawsuit

TICKET An Ontario Superior Court Judge has given the green light to a Toronto radiologist to launch a class action lawsuit against the city saying it "knew or ought to have known" that some of its parking machines were malfunctioning in inclement weather. Anne Marie Arenson, who works at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, says she made several "valiant" attempts during a blizzard last November to feed coins into two different parking machines on Bayview Avenue, south of Eglinton, before giving up. When Arenson emerged from a restaurant a few hours later she found a $30 parking tag stuck on her windshield.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

COP CHARGED Peel Regional Police Const. Roger Yeo, 38, has been charged under the Police Services Act with insubordination for allegedly refusing to co-operate with internal affairs investigators probing the use of steroids among the force's rank-and-file.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Estelle **Groovin' with Shine girl**

MUCH MUSIC PHOTO

British R&B sensation Estelle performs her hit American Boy on MuchOnDemand yesterday. The 18-year-old singer recently went to the top of the U.K. charts with the song from her album Shine.

Airport kiosks under scrutiny

FRAUD Passengers travelling out of Pearson airport are being advised to be cautious when using their credit cards at the self-service kiosks in light of an investigation of suspected credit-card fraud.

WestJet, one of 13 airlines that use automated kiosks, announced yesterday it would disable credit-card readers on its machines across the country as a precaution.

"We have done it to ensure that there is no possibility of something happening to a passenger's personal information," said a spokeswoman for the airline.

Officials with the Greater Toronto Airport Authority said the investigation began when they were approached by VISA after the credit-card company noticed "isolated" and "increased" instances of credit-card fraud taking place at the airport — focused around the kiosks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ontario judge OK's unapproved wiretaps

COURT An Ontario Superior Court judge has ruled the Criminal Code emergency provision allowing police wiretapping without a judge's authorization, while not perfect, is constitutionally valid in relation to a major case underway in a downtown Toronto court.

The proceedings are still at the pre-trial stage so no details, not even those identifying the accused, can be reported.

But the decision comes at a time when the Ontario Provincial Police is under fire for using wiretaps without judicial approval during an Aboriginal day of action last summer.

Most wiretaps require judicial approval, but Section 184.4 of the Criminal Code permits a "peace officer" to intercept private communications in emergency situations — without prior judicial authorization.

Earlier this year, a B.C. Supreme Court judge found Section 184.4 was unconstitutional. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Councillor invites people to help forced-out tenants

Toronto Coun. Janet Davis called on city residents to open their wallets for some 900 tenants forced out of an east-end apartment building after a massive electrical explosion last Saturday. People can go to toronto.ca to find out how to make a donation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bike lanes lauded

Reader says cyclists are a nuisance around streetcars

InTransit

Ed Drass
transit@eddrass.com

Jimmy Vuong of Parkdale, a cyclist and frequent rider of the 506 Carlton route, approves of the bike lanes along parts of College Street "except for the frequent incidents of bikers speeding past open streetcar doors in disregard for TTC riders entering and exiting."

He writes of nearly being hit twice recently. He says he's known "a lot of people" who were struck by bicycles, "and the biker just swore at them and kept on biking."

He adds, "From what I have noticed, nearly 85 to 90 per cent of bikers (do) not stop when a streetcar opens it doors."

Safety blitz tickets

During a 2007 transit-related safety blitz, police issued 2,790 tickets including:

- 1,220 for motorists driving in HOV lanes (high-occupancy-vehicle lanes) during prohibited times;
- 809 for motorists making prohibited turns that interfered with transit vehicles;
- 73 for motorists failing to yield to buses re-entering roadways from bus bays;
- 97 for passing streetcars while the doors were open.

SOURCE: TORONTO POLICE SERVICE (2007 STATS)

I don't know if the number is that high, but as cycling increases in popularity there will be more potential for transit patrons and bicyclists to come into conflict. About one rider is reportedly struck alongside a streetcar every month — but in each case by a motor vehicle. Few bike collisions have been recorded, and yet the possibility is very real.

The first automobile-related fatality in North America occurred in 1899 when a man was hit exiting a New York City tram. In Toronto, the threat of being similarly run over has remained fairly constant in recent years. And yet, as any rider knows, the close calls are scary.

This week, local police are running their annual blitz to remind us of one simple thing: Pay attention around transit vehicles. That includes carelessly walking in front of streetcars on Spadina Avenue or rushing into traffic to make a bus connection. Be especially aware how distracted you become while listening to music or using a cellphone.

Earlier this decade, the TTC asked its operators to record details of any car passing open streetcar doors, but the number of incidents quickly overwhelmed the police force's ability to process and send out warnings. The program did not continue. This same limitation of resources also appears to hinder any plan to install cameras on transit vehicles. Or is our collective will simply lacking?

There have been other efforts to attach more aggressive warnings to streetcars. TTC staff and University of Toronto engineering students have examined various schemes, but devices were rejected as unworkable or unsafe.

When it comes to bikes, should we streetcar users take it upon ourselves to verbally remind cyclists to stop at open doors? Send me your thoughts on whether a low-tech, person-to-person campaign could improve the safety of TTC riders.

Ed Drass has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA.

Skoda expresses interest in TTC streetcar contract

Skoda, the giant Czech manufacturer of transit vehicles, would like to play ball with the Toronto Transit Commission for its historic $1.25-billion contract to replace the aging Red Rocket streetcars.

But the company's manager of U.S. operations says Skoda will get into the bidding only if the TTC relents on its requirement for a 100 per cent low-floor streetcar — something TTC chair Adam Giambrone says Toronto is not willing to consider.

Bombardier and France-based Alstom have also expressed interest in the contract since the TTC abandoned its "request for proposals" process last week.

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45+ months	$299.00	$99.99	$2999.00	$149.99

Gun amnesty in Alberta

Aboriginal leaders from four Alberta reserves hope a gun amnesty believed to be the first for a native community will help reduce gang-related violence that has plagued them for years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Premier wants Ottawa onside

Ottawa needs to join Ontario in the starting blocks soon if Toronto is to win the race to host the 2015 Pan Am Games, says Premier Dalton McGuinty. But the federal Conservatives insist they don't want to risk a false start by signing on to the $1.77-billion bid too soon. "I am ready and raring to go," McGuinty told reporters yesterday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tasered youth a theft suspect

Police say deceased teen had a knife

A 17-year-old youth who died after being hit by a Taser was a suspect in a theft, Winnipeg police said yesterday.

An officer deployed an "electronic control device" when the teenager refused to comply with repeated directions to put down a knife, said Const. Jacqueline Chaput.

"That poses a threat to the officers, that poses a threat to other members of the public and officers made the decision to deploy the electronic control device to ensure public safety as well as their own safety," she said.

Police didn't identify the victim, who was originally thought to be in his 20s.

The deadly encounter started Tuesday afternoon when two citizens flagged down a passing police cruiser to report that someone was stealing something from a vehicle. The pair had been following a youth around a neighbourhood in west-central Winnipeg.

"The male refused to disarm himself."
Const. Jacqueline Chaput

When officers confronted the teen in a back lane near the National Microbiology Laboratory, he was brandishing a knife, Chaput said.

"The male refused to disarm himself, resulting in an officer deploying an electronic control device," Chaput said.

Officers called for medical help and paramedics arrived quickly.

The teen was taken in critical condition to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hail! Grim weather in Grimsby

RON ALBERTSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Daniel Mazur tosses a snowball made of hail on his family's rear deck yesterday after a storm struck Grimsby. Yet another storm hit southern Ontario Tuesday night, ushering in strong winds and dumping golf-ball-size hail in the Grimsby area.

Murder confession was to help bizarre love: Phillion

CRIME When he impulsively confessed to murder more than 36 years ago, Romeo Phillion darkly observed he'd "signed my life away," but says he had reasons for doing so, even if they were a bit bizarre.

31 The number of years Romeo Phillion spent in jail for a murder he says he didn't commit.

For starters, he hoped his drag-queen lover would receive at least part of a $2,500 reward for information leading to the killer's arrest.

Phillion recanted almost instantly and believed the mess could be straightened out, but that proved enormously wishful thinking.

Phillion, 68, spent 31 years in prison for the crime. Since he refused to admit guilt, he was consistently denied parole.

He's now free on bail and the case is being reviewed by the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Nearly 41 years after Ottawa firefighter Leopold Roy was slain in his apartment stairwell, whether Phillion falsely confessed is the subject of a court showdown between two forensic experts.

Up yesterday was Dr. Michael Welner, a forensic psychiatrist from New York. Welner is known for creating The Depravity Scale, which attempts to provide a measurement of evil, to help courts decide if certain crimes warrant enhanced punishment.

Welner testified false confessions do occur but are rare, with no jurisdiction recording more than one or two "in a generation."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Fall-ing for election: Dion

Canadians are increasingly in the mood for a federal election this fall, says Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion.

"More than before," Dion said yesterday when asked what he was hearing on the road about voters' desire to go to the polls.

"We have seen over the winter and the spring, more and more interest for federal politics and more and more appetite for an election."

But it may be another election — the U.S. presidential contest — that will also help the Liberals in any looming electoral battle here, Dion says.

The Liberal leader is on a tour of eastern Ontario to sell his "green shift" tax proposal.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Green PST breaks being extended

ENVIRONMENT Going green will continue to save you some green.

As first announced in the spring budget, the Ontario government is extending the provincial sales tax exemption on energy-efficient appliances and most bicycles. Energy Star-rated refrigerators, freezers, washers, dehumidifiers and room air conditioners qualify, along with high-efficiency light bulbs and bicycles costing less than $1,000, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

ANNIVERSARY Twenty-five years after he pulled off a miracle in the air, retired pilot Bob Pearson was applauded in Gimli, Man. In 1983, Pearson was piloting an Air Canada 767 when the jet ran out of fuel. Pearson safely glided the powerless aircraft to Gimli.

SEAL HUNT The future of the commercial harp seal hunt, a centuries-old industry and way of life for several thousand East Coast fishermen, was plunged into uncertainty yesterday after the European Union proposed a partial ban on seal products.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Accused sexual assaulter deported
A Denver man accused of sexually assaulting girls after soliciting them on the Internet has been deported back to the U.S. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Checking the labels

Government proposes new food-labelling requirements

Researchers have launched a national survey to determine how many Canadians suffer from potentially fatal food allergies and how effective food labelling is in helping consumers avoid allergens that may be hazardous to their health.

Details of the survey of 9,000 Canadians were announced yesterday at the same time as federal Health Minister Tony Clement outlined proposed new labelling requirements for allergens, gluten sources and added sulphites in pre-packaged foods.

The survey by researchers at the Allergy, Genes and Environment Network conducted in partnership with Health Canada, is aimed at nailing down the prevalence in the population of severe allergies to the "Big Five" — peanuts, tree nuts, fish, shellfish and sesame seeds.

"We have virtually no prevalence data in Canada on food allergies," although the proportion of Canadians affected appears to be on the rise, said co-principal investigator Susan Elliott of McMaster University in Hamilton.

"If we do suspect that food allergies are increasing, then we need to know what the baseline is and what food allergies are increasing."

Anaphylaxis Canada, which has contributed funding toward the study, estimates that 4 per cent of Canadians are at risk for an anaphylactic reaction to particular foods.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TOM HANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health Minister Tony Clement announces new proposed food-labelling requirements in Ottawa yesterday.

Immigrants send money back home

REPORT Despite their own financial woes, four in 10 immigrants in Canada sent money home to support families and friends, says a Statistics Canada report released yesterday.

The study of immigrants' remittances found skilled workers, investors and entrepreneurs topped the list by sending an average $3,000 abroad, compared with $2,700 for family-class immigrants and $1,900 for refugees.

Remittances accounted for 7.5 per cent of the remitter's annual personal income and 3.4 per cent of family income in a newcomer's first two years in Canada.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CBC launches Chinese site

JOYCE YIP
for Metro Canada

INTERNET Canada's national public broadcaster launched a Chinese news website yesterday.

CBC British Columbia, in association with Radio Canada International (RCI), became this country's first major broadcaster to introduce a news site that features up to 18 local, national and international stories in Chinese.

"We'll pick a number of stories, then we'll talk to the translators/journalists at RCI, and they'll translate and post them," said Liz Hughes, the director of news for CBC.

The Chinese population in Canada has grown more than 18 per cent in the past decade, according to a 2006 Statistics Canada report.

Big Bike-Building Challenge ahead

This weekend, thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts will get together in Welland for Canada's Custom Bike-Building Challenge and the first annual Great Canadian Motorcycle Auction in support of The Huntington Society.

The auction will feature more than $1 million worth of custom-built choppers, bobbers, baggers and more. Buyers will have the opportunity to bid on award-winning bikes from Canada's top custom chopper builders.

For more, visit auctionwire.com/buildoff.

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Bomb plotters appeal denied

A British court has rejected an appeal by five men, serving life sentences for plotting a bombing campaign, to overturn their convictions. Momin Khawaja, currently on trial in Ottawa, is alleged to be their co-conspirator. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Oil fight

Nigeria's main militant group, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta, yesterday threatened to launch a new wave of attacks on the volatile West African nation's oil pipelines within 30 days to counter allegations it had taken money to protect the pipelines.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Couple charged for faking death

INSURANCE SCAM A British judge sentenced a husband and wife to more than six years in jail yesterday for faking the man's drowning death in a $500,000 US insurance scam.

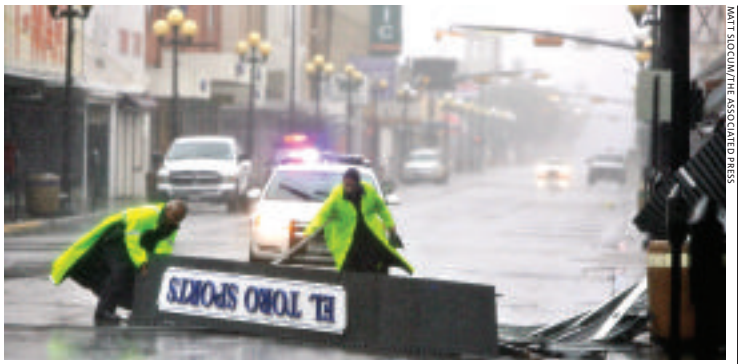
Anne Darwin, 56, and her husband John Darwin, 57, staged John's death in an apparent canoe accident in 2002 to collect pension and insurance payments.

Prosecutors said the couple kept the fact that he was alive secret from their two adult sons while they planned to start a new life together in Panama.

The plot began to unravel when a newspaper published a photograph of the smiling couple together in Panama, four years after his alleged death.

Prosecutors said that for some of the time he was missing, John Darwin lived in a secret room in an apartment next door to the family home in Seaton Carew, about 420 kilometres north of London.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



MATT SLOCUM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Police clear debris from a store damaged by hurricane Dolly yesterday in Brownsville, Texas.

Dolly slams Texas

Levees hold up, easing flooding fears

Hurricane Dolly slammed into the South Texas coast yesterday with punishing rain and winds of 160 km/h, blowing down signs, peeling off roofs and knocking out power to thousands before weakening over land.

Local officials' greatest fear — that the levees holding back the Rio Grande would fail and cause massive flooding — eased when Dolly meandered about 56 kilometres north of the U.S.-Mexico border just before coming ashore on South Padre Island as a Category 2 storm.

Two hours later, Dolly's winds slowed to 153 km/h, and the storm was downgraded to Category 1.

"The levees are holding up just fine," said Cameron County Emergency Management co-ordinator Johnny Cavazos. "There is no indication they are going to crest."

The storm defied forecasts that it would swarm the mouth of the Rio Grande.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Secret life of war crimes suspect intrigues Serbs

Radovan Karadzic sent word he plans to defend himself against UN genocide charges, but his fellow Serbs were more enthralled with details that emerged yesterday about his secret life: A mistress, a bogus family in the United States and regular visits to the Madhouse bar.

> **"I thought he belonged to some religious sect or something."**
> Zoran Pavlovic

Since the arrest was announced Monday, Serbs have been intrigued by how the war crimes suspect transformed himself from a flashy suit-and-tie politician into a long-haired health guru living in their midst.

Karadzic had a girlfriend, Mila, whom he presented as an associate in his alternative medicine business, said Zoran Pavlovic, a software engineer who was hired to set up a website for "Dabic" to advertise his expertise in "human quantum energy."

Pavlovic said he visited Karadzic's apartment in a grim suburb called New Belgrade regularly to discuss the project.

The rented two-room flat was a mess, and Karadzic always dressed in black. He displayed a photo of his supposed grandchildren who he said lived in the U.S.

"Frankly, he scared me a bit. I thought he belonged to some religious sect or something, with that beard and all, but I treated him as any other client," Pavlovic said.

Karadzic neighbour, Milica Sener, said, "He was always polite, offering his services to help my husband, who had a stroke."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama pledges support for Israel

TOURING REGION From the solemnity of a Holocaust museum to a dusty village battered by Hamas rockets, U.S. Democratic presidential contender Barack Obama yesterday professed "an unshakable commitment to the security" of Israel, whether the threat comes from terrorists, Iran or elsewhere.

"The way you know where somebody's going is where have they been. And I've been with Israel for many, many years now," he said on a day that bore striking similarities to campaigning in the United States.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

CALMING JITTERS Legislation to help 400,000 strapped homeowners avoid foreclosure and prevent mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac from collapsing passed in the U.S. House yesterday. The vote is expected to calm jittery financial markets.

HIATUS OVER Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice met North Korea's top diplomat in Singapore yesterday, ending a four-year hiatus in cabinet-level contacts between the Bush administration and the Stalinist state over its nuclear program. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Teacher wins Ride the Tide Challenge
A Minnesota high school teacher lasted 20 hours on a carnival ride to win the Ride the Tide Challenge in Bloomington, Minn. Jim Salava, 40, of Oakdale, was declared the winner when his final opponent stepped down at 2:35 a.m. Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Read more Metro online today. metronews.ca

PM 'stuck' to cause

A climate change activist assured himself a captive audience — by gluing himself to the prime minister of Britain.

Dan Glass, 24, grasped the sleeve of Gordon Brown's suit with a glue-covered hand at an awards ceremony Tuesday night, according to Plane Stupid, a group known primarily for its attention-grabbing stunts.

Glass had been invited to receive an award for his campaigning activities from the Sheila McKechnie Foundation, a social justice group.

Glass clamped his hand onto Brown's suit during the reception and began lecturing him about climate change. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

LAKES A compact to prevent the diversion of water from the Great Lakes has widespread support in Congress and a strong chance of winning approval, U.S. legislators said yesterday. House of Representatives and Senate leaders from the region said they would aggressively push to complete the process this year.

BEARS Russian news agencies are reporting that a pack of enormous bears have killed and eaten two men at mines in Russia's Pacific Kamchatka region.

ATTACK A woman walking her two dogs in a rural area of Southern California was attacked and severely injured by a bear, but managed to drive herself to a nearby fire station for help.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Media NY Times hikes price

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man picks up a copy of Metro, the world's largest newspaper with more than 20 million readers daily, across the street from The New York Times building in New York. The Times raised the Monday-to-Saturday cost of the paper yesterday by 25 cents to $1.50 US.

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Toronto Stock Exchange to delist Hollinger Inc. next month
Shares of Hollinger Inc., the company formerly controlled by Conrad Black, will be removed from the Toronto Stock Exchange on Aug. 22 for failure to meet listing requirements. Securities of the company have been halted on a cease trade order. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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Investors sue CIBC over risky loans

CLASS ACTION A group of investors has become the first to launched a "multi-billion-dollar" class-action lawsuit against the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, alleging misrepresentations about the bank's exposure to the American subprime-mortgage market.

The claim alleges the bank misrepresented its total exposure to United States subprime loans by saying it "was 'not a major issue' when, in fact, the bank had exposure to billions of dollars of losses."

The suit covers investors who bought shares between May 31, 2007, and Feb. 28, 2008. The suit has not yet received official certification as a class action. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas, food price hikes wipe out wage gains

Soaring fuel and food costs caused consumer prices to shoot up in June — marking the largest surge in inflation in nearly three years and effectively erasing the bulk of wage gains earned by Canadians over the last year.

Statistics Canada reported yesterday that consumer prices rose by 3.1 per cent in the 12 months ending in June. In contrast, average hourly wages rose 4.4 per cent during that same period. Economists said that means Canadians are only being paid about 1.3 per cent more per hour than they were last year.

Statistics Canada said gasoline prices climbed 26.9 per cent between June 2007 and June 2008, which is "significantly higher" than the 15 per cent increase posted in May. It was the biggest jump since September 2005 when damage inflicted by hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused oil prices to soar.

Canadians also shelled out 3 per cent more for store-bought food in June. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Food price hikes

- Baked goods, up 12.3%
- Pasta products up 35.9%
- Flour up 44.5%
- Bread up 17.7%

Business in brief

GM OSHAWA The Canadian Auto Workers say it is close to a "unique" resolution with General Motors over the shutdown of the Oshawa truck plant.

JENNY CRAIG Sid Craig, the co-founder of Jenny Craig, died Monday in San Diego following a long illness, the weight loss company said. He was 76.

AUTO Ford hasn't talked about building smaller automobiles at its Oakville plant, trade minister Sandra Pupatello said yesterday. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Video didn't kill radio: CRTC

PROFIT Once decried as a dying medium, the CRTC said revenues for Canada's radio stations grew by 6.2 per cent to $1.5 billion in 2007. Profits improved 5.5 per cent to $300.2 million. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Basketball

U.S. forward LeBron James likely will sit out tomorrow's exhibition against Canada as he recovers from a mild right ankle sprain, but he likely won't be forced to miss the Summer Games in Beijing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beijing Games

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

North Korea boosts squad size

ATHLETES North Korea is sending more than 60 athletes to the Summer Games in Beijing, its second largest Olympic squad ever, state media reported yesterday.

The size of the squad is the second largest since it sent 75 athletes to the 1992 Games in Barcelona, according to South Korea's Unification Ministry.

China to set up protester zones

SECURITY Beijing will set up specially designated zones for protesters during the Olympics, a security official said yesterday, in a sign China's authoritarian government may allow some demonstrations during the games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tomorrow's lineup

FREE SPEECH Will the media finally enjoy the "complete freedom" Beijing organizers publicly promised? Pick up tomorrow's Metro for more.

14 days remain until the official start of the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing.

Kayaker to carry flag

Van Koeverden, 26, will lead Team Canada into opening ceremonies

Kayaker Adam van Koeverden carried the flag in the closing ceremonies for Canada at the 2004 Athens Olympics. Now, he'll be carrying the Maple Leaf back into the stadium for the 2008 Beijing Games.

"I'm more than honoured and privileged. It fills me with so much pride to (carry the flag)."
Adam van Koeverden

Van Koeverden was announced yesterday morning at a news conference in Montreal as Canada's flag bearer at the opening ceremonies at the Aug. 8-24 Beijing Summer Olympics. The Canadian team was officially announced as well.

"I don't see it so much as leading but as representing," van Koeverden said via satellite from his local club in Oakville. "We're all marching in together. Everybody's a leader."

Judoka Nicolas Gill carried the Canadian flag at the opening ceremonies at the 2004 Summer Games in Athens. Hockey player Danielle Goyette was the Canadian flag-bearer at the 2006 Winter Games in Turin, Italy.

"I'm more than honoured and privileged. It fills me with so much pride to (carry the flag)," said van Koeverden. "I can't wait."

Van Koeverden had too strong a resumé to be ignored and was chosen over a group of other possible candidates that included equestrian Ian Millar of Perth, Ont., who at 61 is competing in a record-tying ninth Olympics; diver Alexandre Despatie of Montreal, an Olympic silver medallist and former world champion; and triathlete Simon Whitfield, the 2000 Sydney Olympic champion.

Van Koeverden will be Canada's best medal hope in Beijing, as the reigning Olympic and world champion, as well as world record holder in the men's K-1 500 metres. He has been a force on the World Cup this season, winning five of six races (three in the K-1 500, two in the K-1, 1,000), and capturing a bronze in the other K-1, 1,000.

The 26-year-old from the Burloak Canoe Club in Oakville, Ont., also has the kind of attitude that the COC is hoping will be instilled in athletes as they move towards the 2010 Vancouver Olympics and beyond. Asked about the pressure of competing for Canada, van Koeverden's response was: "Bring it on."

"You should be stressed out about racing for Canada," he said earlier this year. "People are watching. You should perform. It's your job to perform. It's your job to run 100 metres or throw a javelin or paddle a kayak."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JONATHAN FERREY/GETTY IMAGES

Adam van Koeverden will be carrying the Maple Leaf back into the stadium for the 2008 Games.

Canadian athletes named

The Canadian Olympic Committee also unveiled the team that will compete in Beijing yesterday.

- Some 331 athletes will represent Canada compared to 265 who competed at Athens.
- The COC says the addition of the men's field hockey and women's soccer teams have contributed to the increase.
- For more, go to olympic.ca.

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NBA
The Los Angeles Clippers acquired Jason Hart from the Utah Jazz yesterday in exchange for Brevin Knight in a swap of point guards. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Childress off to Greece

Josh Childress is leaving the Atlanta Hawks for Greek club Olympiakos. Heading overseas allows Childress, left, to make more money than he could have as a restricted free agent in the United States. The Hawks had the right to match an offer from another NBA team, but not from an international club. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPORTS EDITOR: JONATHAN P. KUEHLEIN, SPORTS@METRONEWS.CA

Federer sent packing

World No. 1 upset by Simon in first match at Rogers Cup

World No. 1 Roger Federer is out of the Rogers Cup. The top seed from Switzerland lost 2-6, 7-5, 6-4 to world No. 22 Gilles Simon of France in the second round.

Federer won the tournament in 2004 and '06 — the last two times it was held in Toronto. He finished second last year to Serbia's Novak Djokovic.

It was Federer's first match since losing the men's final at Wimbledon in five sets to Spain's Rafael Nadal.

In other action yesterday, Jesse Levine hung in long enough against Nadal to win over some fans, but not the match.

The Ottawa-born qualifier was ousted by the second-seeded Spaniard 6-4, 6-2 on a soggy day at the Rexall Centre.

"Today wasn't my best match obviously, but I didn't feel very bad after the beginning," Nadal said. "If I don't play better, I'm going to have a lot of problems."

There were several notable upsets on the day. Croatian Marin Cilic ousted 12th-seeded Spaniard Tommy Robredo 6-3, 6-4, Sweden's Robin Soderling defeated 13th seed Fernando Verdasco of Spain 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-4, Argentina's Jose Acasuso beat 14th-seeded Fernando Gonzalez of Chile 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, and Russian Igor Andreev got past 16th-seeded Czech Tomas Berdych 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

World No. 1 Roger Federer of Switzerland walks off the court after losing to Gilles Simon of France last night at the Rogers Cup at the Rexall Centre at York University.

Beckham finally ready to make BMO Field debut

SOCCER It's been almost a year since David Beckham sat in his tailored suit on the sidelines of BMO Field, watching as his Los Angeles Galaxy played Toronto FC to a scoreless draw.

Beckham

The buzz of anticipation in the air that night fizzled into disappointment for Becks fans as the former England captain sat out the game with an ankle injury.

The wait's finally over.

Beckham, who didn't travel to Toronto for the Galaxy's game earlier this season due to England team duties, will make his BMO Field debut tonight when Major League Soccer's biggest stars take on English premier squad West Ham United in the annual MLS all-star game.

"Obviously it was frustrating for myself last year because I wasn't able to play, but this year, being able to train every day, and play in every game, it's helped me understand the game a lot better," Beckham said yesterday.

A year into his stint in the MLS, Beckham-mania perhaps isn't quite as crazy as it was when the 33-year-old landed in Toronto for the Galaxy's Aug. 5 game.

But MLS commissioner Don Garber said the addition of Beckham has been a huge boost to the league.

"We've achieved more with the signing of David Beckham than I think we believed ever could be achieved," Garber said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jays vs Seattle Mariners

Friday, July 25th @ 7:07 pm
FLASHBACK FRIDAYS- featuring Danny Cox,* 1993 World Series champion and set-up man. Autograph signing from 5:45-6:30 pm at Gate 6A.
Presented by TORONTO STAR thestar.com FAN 590 Toronto's Sports Radio

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MLB
Injured Seattle Mariners starter Erik Bedard of Navan, Ont., got an MRI on his left shoulder Tuesday, but team physicians found no new causes for the nagging tightness and soreness the lefty is experiencing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

St. Pierre says skill will win out

Canadian feeling confident ahead of UFC title defence against Fitch

UFC welterweight champion Georges St. Pierre.

Georges St. Pierre says Jon Fitch is good, but not good enough to take away his Ultimate Fighting Championship welterweight title.

"I believe that everything Jon Fitch is good at, I'm better than he is," St. Pierre said yesterday. "He's good all around, but I'm better in every single aspect of the game.

"But saying that, it's not always the best fighter that wins the fight. It's the one who fights the best. So I will have to be very well-prepared and in good shape, with a good game plan, and take care of business."

St. Pierre and Fitch meet in UFC:87 on Aug. 9 in Minneapolis.

It is the Montreal fighter's first defence of the title he regained with a second-round victory over Matt Serra before an adoring hometown crowd at the Bell Centre on April 19.

While he is confident, St. Pierre can't let himself get too cocky, as he did after he first won the UFC title in November 2006. That time, he was beaten in his first title defence by Serra at UFC:69 in April 2007.

He bounced back with wins over Josh Koschek and Matt Hughes, a rematch that earned him the interim title that he confirmed with the victory over Serra.

"Right now, I am exactly where I was a year and a half ago," St. Pierre said. "I'm world champion and I'm going for my first title defence, so it's a great challenge, not only because I'm fighting my most dangerous opponent so far, but also because I want to succeed where last time I failed."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brewers give Gibbons chance to make team

MLB Former major leaguer Jay Gibbons is getting a second chance with the Milwaukee Brewers.

Gibbons

The Brewers have purchased Gibbons' contract from the Atlantic League's Long Island Ducks and will assign him to their Double-A affiliate.

Manager Ned Yost said he had been unaware of the team's interest before Gibbons was signed.

"It's experienced depth," Yost said. "And at a good price, I guess."

The 31-year-old Gibbons was cut by the Baltimore Orioles in March.

Gibbons was suspended for 15 days on Dec. 6 by MLB following a media report that he received a shipment of the human growth hormone after January 2005, when it was banned by baseball. The suspension was later rescinded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CRA341CFP Tab 4C - Metro Toronto - Toronto WK30

NFL

Devin Hester, left, who has electrified the NFL with 11 punt and kickoff returns for touchdowns in his first two seasons, skipped the Chicago Bears' first training camp practice yesterday in a contract squabble. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

CYCLING Carlos Sastre won yesterday's 17th stage of the Tour de France, the hardest ride this year up three huge Alpine climbs, to take the overall lead from CSC teammate Franck Schleck. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOTTERIES

Lotto 6/49	7, 9, 25, 35, 40 & 48. Bonus 1.
Ontario 49	4, 8, 13, 31, 47 & 49. Bonus 43.
Ontario Pick 3	5 5 3
Ontario Pick 4	3 9 6 4
Encore	0027247
Daily Keno	5, 10, 16, 20, 23, 24, 29, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 48, 51, 54, 59, 61, 65, 66, 70.

Results not official

Canadian golfers feel the heat

Wait continues for another homegrown champ as Open gets underway

Somebody carrying a Canadian passport is bound to win the country's national golf championship eventually.

Only two men have accomplished that feat since 1914 and neither of them is still alive to tell the players of today how they did it.

That leaves Mike Weir, Stephen Ames and 17 other Canadians to figure it out on their own when the RBC Canadian Open gets underway at Glen Abbey today.

"There's going to be somebody at some time do it, whether it's my generation, the guys that are here right now or the next crop of young guys that are coming up," Weir said yesterday after his pro-am round. "It would be great for the game in this country if one of us can do it."

Weir

It's something Canadian players are reminded of every time they prepare for this event. By now, each of them knows that Pat Fletcher's victory in 1954 was the last for the home side.

Richard Zokol certainly heard that over and over during the prime of his career. He was tied for the lead heading to the final round of the Canadian Open in 1987 before shooting 75 and watching Curtis Strange lift the trophy.

It's now 21 years later and Canadian golf fans are still waiting for a champion of their own.

"Each year gets tougher and tougher," said Zokol. "At some point, someone's going to have to deal with (the pressure) and succeed through it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ducks ink coach Carlyle to two-year extension

NHL Randy Carlyle, who coached the Anaheim Ducks to a Stanley Cup title in 2007, signed a two-year extension yesterday.

The 52-year-old Carlyle, hired Aug. 1, 2005 as the seventh coach in team history, has guided the Ducks to a franchise-record three consecutive trips to the post-season. They have won six of their eight playoff series during that time, tied with the Detroit Red Wings for the best in the NHL.

Carlyle, who is now under contract for three seasons, also has the most wins and highest winning percentage in franchise history. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCOREBOARD

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Tampa Bay	59	41	.590	—
Boston	60	43	.583	½
N.Y. Yankees	56	45	.554	3½
TORONTO	**49**	**51**	**.490**	**10**
Baltimore	48	51	.485	10½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	57	43	.570	—
Minnesota	55	46	.545	2½
Detroit	52	49	.515	5½
Kansas City	45	57	.441	13
Cleveland	44	56	.440	13

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	62	39	.614	—
Oakland	52	49	.515	10
Texas	52	50	.510	10½
Seattle	38	63	.376	24

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
N.Y. Mets	54	47	.535	—
Philadelphia	54	47	.535	—
Florida	53	48	.525	1
Atlanta	48	53	.475	6
Washington	38	62	.380	15½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	58	42	.580	—
Milwaukee	57	43	.570	1
St. Louis	57	45	.559	2
Cincinnati	50	53	.485	9½
Pittsburgh	47	54	.465	11½
Houston	46	55	.455	12½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arizona	50	50	.500	—
L.A. Dodgers	49	52	.485	1½
Colorado	45	58	.437	6½
San Francisco	41	58	.414	8½
San Diego	38	64	.373	13

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Baltimore

Boston 6 Seattle 3 (12 ings)

Chicago White Sox 10 Texas 8

Detroit 7 Kansas City 1

L.A. Angels 14 Cleveland 11

N.Y. Yankees 5 Minnesota 1

Tampa Bay 4 Oakland 3

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Atlanta 9 Florida 4

Cincinnati 9 San Diego 5

Colorado 5 L.A. Dodgers 3

N.Y. Mets 6 Philadelphia 3

Pittsburgh 8 Houston 7

Milwaukee at St. Louis

Chicago Cubs at Arizona

Washington at San Francisco

TODAY'S GAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO at Baltimore, 12:35

Tampa Bay at Kansas City, 8:10

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 12:10

Washington at San Francisco, 3:35

San Diego at Pittsburgh, 7:05

Florida at Chicago Cubs, 8:05

Milwaukee at St. Louis, 8:15

CFL

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	T	PTS
Montreal	2	2	0	4
TORONTO	**2**	**2**	**0**	**4**
Hamilton	1	3	0	2
Winnipeg	0	4	0	0

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	T	GB
Saskatchewan	4	0	0	8
Calgary	3	1	0	6
Edmonton	2	2	0	4
B.C.	2	2	0	4

WEEK 5

TONIGHT'S GAME

Calgary at Winnipeg, 8

TOMORROW'S GAMES

Edmonton at Hamilton, 7

Montreal at B.C., 10

SUNDAY'S GAME

TORONTO at Saskatchewan, 7

SOCCER

GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:

TONIGHT'S GAME

MLS All-Star Game (at BMO Field)

MLS All-Stars vs. West Ham, 7

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Monarch

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Outside Decor

Canadian Gardening

ROGER YIP

clippings

Dress up dahlias in short order

CUTTING GARDEN A handful of pretty dahlias from the garden (shown here, 'Melody Gypsy') gain more panache when anchored in a loose grid of wild grapevine and displayed in a vintage vase. The grapevine acts as a frog, keeping blooms steady, while adding a romantic flourish of its own.

— DESIGNED BY HILARY BELLIS, IT CAN BE ARRANGED, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, ONT.

ROGER YIP

on the market

All natural corny weed-and-feed

AMAIZING GRASS The first registered (under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's Fertilizer Act) natural weed-and-feed lawn product to hit Canadian store shelves is Environmental Factor's TurfMaize Bioweed N' Feed. Made of 98 per cent corn gluten, this dual-action 9-0-0 fertilizer inhibits pre-emergent dandelions and smooth crabgrass seed germination (when used as part of a complete lawn care program) and feeds turf with slow release nitrogen. It won't burn the grass and is safe for children and pets. Available in a 9-kg pail ($25) or 18-kg bag ($40) at Home Hardware.

In praise of fabulous phlox

Summer, fall varieties are back-of-the-border classics

With such a wide range of phlox available, there's one for most garden situations, from dry to moist soils, in full sun to full shade. Whether groundcover or towering perennial, evergreen or deciduous, phlox comes in an overwhelming array of colours, heights, forms and bloom times, too.

Perhaps best of all, it's a terrific companion plant. In shades of blue, white and pink, for example, they tone down hot yellows and oranges and buddy up to other cool-coloured perennials.

Low, spring-flowering groundcovers such as woodland phlox combine exceptionally well with early bulbs, including the dwarf narcissus 'Tête-à-Tête,' as well as native wildflowers.

DORLING KINDERSLEY

Phlox paniculata 'Eva Cullum'

Leading the parade of summer- and early-fall-flowering plants is garden phlox, a classic back-of-the-border specimen.

Many phloxes are sweetly scented, despite the genetic tinkering that's produced the newer cultivars. (In Britain, some are called summer lilacs because of their heady fragrance.)

Before purchasing, give them the sniff test — some are more fragrant than others. They also make great cut flowers.

"Perhaps best of all, (phlox is) a terrific companion plant."

— ANNE MARIE VAN NEST

Pot luck With a bit of care, tired container plantings go from weary to cheery

TIDY UP To instantly improve a container's overall appearance, trim off damaged, yellowed, crispy or chewed leaves.

Thoroughly deadhead spent blooms (nip off all flower parts, not just the petals); this prevents plants from producing seed, which triggers them to stop flowering. Those that benefit include dahlias, geraniums, heliotrope, lantanas, marigolds, nasturtiums most petunias, salvias, verbenas and zinnias.

Small-flowered plants such as bacopa, fibrous (wax) begonias, impatiens and portulaca and are too time-consuming to deadhead and are often self-cleaning.

— BECKIE FOX

MARTIN PAGE/PHOTOLIBRARY

PURESTOCK

BRUCE HEINEMANN/PHOTODISC

From left, lantana, heliotrope, verbena and nasturtiums are among the container-garden plants that benefit from a good tidy-up.

Armchair gardeners will dig this organic growing reference

ROGER YIP

Grow Organic by Anna Kruger, DK Publishing, 352 pages, Hardcover, $28.

Now that organic gardening has taken mainstream hold — propped up by the increasing number of Canadian municipalities, and even one entire province, enacting cosmetic pesticide bans — gardeners are increasingly looking for solid sources of eco-assistance.

Grow Organic is a good place to start. Although produced in Britain, the book outlines general principles that apply equally well in a Canadian context.

All the basics are included, from building and maintaining soil health to dealing with pests and weeds and attracting wildlife.

Where this tome goes further, though, is in taking its holistic view and considering issues not often discussed in organic gardening books. For example, there's a chapter on garden planning that covers walls, fences and other hardscaping materials. Detailed sections on trees, shrubs, perennials, vegetables, fruits and herbs, and an A to Z of plant problems round out the book, along with gorgeous colour pictures.

— LORRAINE JOHNSON

Clients' surprise decision illustrates what's really important

TheHunt

Amit Paul

amitp@rogers.com

Recently I've had a lot of e-mails asking about the most important things to consider when buying a new home or condo. I'd like to share a story that may surprise you.

I've been showing some clients of mine homes in Oakville, and last weekend, a unique opportunity presented itself. A home priced arguably $40,000 below market value became available. I quickly arranged a showing, and upon seeing the home I believed that my clients were on the verge of securing a great deal.

But I wasn't expecting what happened next.

While my clients found the home offered the vast majority of what they were looking for, as well as a few extras, there was a particular detail pertaining to the layout they weren't completely keen on. So they decided to pass.

The experience was refreshing. While most people would have jumped at the opportunity to save, or make, $40,000, this family decided that it really wasn't about the money. It was about finding a home they're completely happy with, one that fits with their vision of the family's future.

They're interested more in the perfect home than the home with the perfect price.

I told them that not putting too much emphasis on the actual price of a home is easy for someone in my position, as my professional understanding of the market affords me security in knowing that virtually any real estate purchase made in the GTA is certain to appreciate.

However, for a family to decide that the price of the home is not nearly as important as the home itself, — well, let's just say that doesn't happen too often.

I share this story with all of you to illustrate that, more than anything else, it really is important to be happy with the home you purchase.

I've also been receiving a lot of e-mails regarding Tridel's Hullmark Centre at Yonge and Sheppard. The release has been pushed a few weeks allowing more investors and purchasers time to consider the project and review the publicity surrounding it. I expect to have additional information within a week or two. The project will likely release in September and sell out well in advance.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max; amitp@rogers.com.

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Impressing your date

Teddy bears and superheroes: No

Your home's décor will make a lasting impression on your date.

If you're serious about dating, take a good look at your home décor. Although you may not always realize it, the way you decorate your home makes a personal and revealing statement about yourself. And that is so true when it comes to bringing a date into your home for the first time.

While it is not the only factor that determines your success with that special someone, your home décor or a lack of it could spell the difference between goodbye after the first date, or a continued relationship. It can certainly enhance your first impression, or it can break it.

Let's start off with the living room, as your date will sit in this room. First of all, make sure the furniture isn't old or tatty.

It doesn't need to be high end, but make sure it is tidy and clean, as disorderliness and dirt doesn't

ArrestingDesign

turn anybody on. Clutter, as always, is a no-no, because it produces agitation rather than peacefulness.

Keep in mind that student-like digs are fine for students, but if you are a young professional and you're looking to impress the man or woman of your dreams, get rid of the beanbag chairs and blow-up furniture, and invest in a few stylish pieces that signal your more grownup status.

A few thoughtfully chosen objets d'art can be conversation starters. Make them meaningful and personal, but tasteful. When you choose the piece, think about why you like it, and what it means to you. Do not choose paintings just because the colours work — or you'll end up with what feels like a dentist's waiting room. But don't go overboard — our décor advice is that it is better to be subtle than outrageous. Express your personality in small ways.

The kitchen should be clean and uncluttered. And do think to stock up on some lovely treats for your date — fresh fruit, chocolate, wine or other delicacies.

And fresh flowers on a counter or a dining room table are always lovely, and will impress, believe us!

The bathroom must be spotless and uncluttered with all your grooming paraphernalia — need we say any more?

And finally, the bedroom. First of all, a bedroom should not look like a shrine to your youth. For example, a young woman who still keeps teddy bears on her bed, and has a pink ruffled bedspread seems, well ... young. And a young man who still has pictures of superheroes on his wall does not seem like the kind of person who is ready to take on the responsibilities of adulthood.

Mementoes of your youth, like trophies, and high school awards and the like, should be displayed in a cabinet or shelf devoted to that purpose. But this should only be a small collection in a much larger room that has been decorated according to a larger theme or décor style.

Because you want to seem open to the idea of two rather than one, keep your decorating colours and style gender neutral in the bedroom, rather than anything too overwhelmingly feminine (such as an all-peach and pink colour scheme, for example) or masculine (such as all dark leathers and ebony wood).

Don't forget to choose gorgeous sheets and co-ordinating pillows — it's worth the splurge.

Last but certainly not least, (and you'll thank us for this) do not forget to put away pictures of former girl or boyfriends.

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network.

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The right lawyer makes a big difference

Q How do I go about choosing a real estate lawyer?

LegalMatters

Jeffrey D. Cowan
jeff@cowanandtaylor.com

A Your choice of a real estate lawyer can be quite an important decision as you may throughout your life buy and sell property several times and a well-informed and researched choice should lead to a life-long relationship that will serve you and your family well over time.

Some of the factors you should consider are:

Area of practice

Is the lawyer someone who practices a lot of real estate law?

There are some lawyers who practice only real estate law and therefore have detailed knowledge of their field.

While this is not absolutely necessary (some lawyers have mixed practices and are still quite adept at real estate transactions) the lawyer should spend a reasonable portion of their practice looking after real estate transactions.

You get what you pay for

Some people simply phone up a law firm and ask for a quote and go with the least expensive response.

Remember the old adage, you get what you pay for. If the price is low, the probability that you are going to have little or no lawyer interaction is likely. Although a lawyer is ultimately responsible for the quality of the work the firm transacts, having personal contact with them is important especially for first time homebuyers who are new to the process.

Openness

The lawyer should willingly provide information as to the process and timing of the transaction and its different components.

If you don't feel comfortable talking to them over the phone, then you should meet with them to discuss your transaction in person.

Get a referral

Referrals by friends and other industry persons are also important. Generally, your real estate agent and your mortgage officer/broker can make good suggestions to assist you with your purchase. I work personally with a number of agents and brokers who send their clients along.

Remember the old adage, you get what you pay for. If the price is low, the probability that you are going to have little or no lawyer interaction is likely.

Personal relationship

It is also about making a personal relationship. Often you can go back to that lawyer to draft your wills or maybe incorporate your small business. It is the same way you would build a confident relationship with a family doctor or an accountant. It is not just who can get the deal done; it is also about personality and openness.

You have to remember that you are probably making the largest investment of your life. Putting that into perspective, paying a couple of hundred dollars more for a well seasoned professional with whom you feel comfortable and who can possibly assist you with other personal legal issues down the road is a good investment of your time and energy.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is the principal of Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors, jeff@cowanandtaylor.com. The information contained in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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Toronto's real estate roller coaster ride

40 years of hot and cold, highs and lows

Toronto real estate has been on a roller coaster ride over the past 40 years, with soaring highs, gut-wrenching lows, strange twists and heart-stopping turns.

As an investment, you could always count on upscale areas like Rosedale, Forest Hill and the Bridle Path to produce good long-term returns.

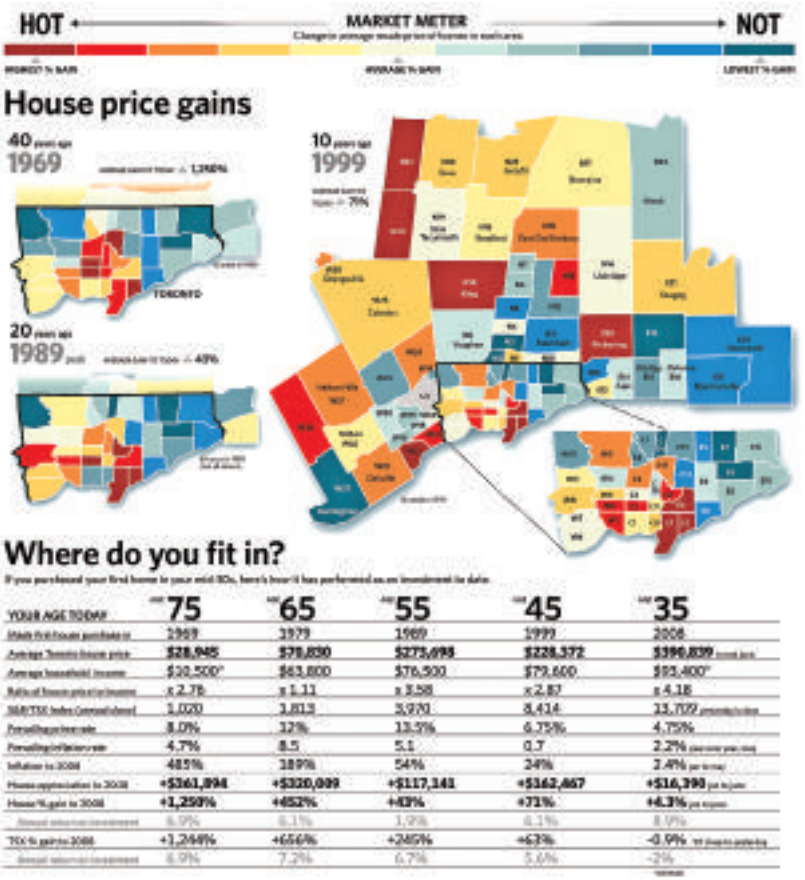
But if you put your money in the Beach or Riverdale in the last 20 years — or in more recent hot spots like South Riverdale and East York — growth has been spectacular. And, while new development has boosted prices in outlying regions such as Milton, King and north Pickering, other areas in north Toronto and parts of Markham are flatlining.

Surprisingly, 40 areas across the GTA have not even kept pace with inflation since house prices hit their 1989 peak.

The three maps on the right show how average house prices have evolved over the last 40, 20 and 10 years.

The largest map — showing changes since 1999 — includes the outer regions, reflecting the increasing coverage of the Toronto Real Estate Board, which tracks resale housing sales.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



YOUR AGE TODAY	75	65	55	45	35
Made first house purchase at	1969	1979	1989	1999	2008
Average Toronto house price	$28,945	$78,830	$275,098	$228,372	$390,839
Average household income	$10,500*	$63,800	$76,500	$79,600	$93,400*
Ratio of house price to income	x 2.76	x 1.11	x 3.58	x 2.87	x 4.18
S&P/TSX Index (annual close)	1,020	1,813	3,970	8,414	13,707
Prevailing mortgage rate	8.0%	12%	13.5%	6.75%	4.75%
Prevailing inflation rate	4.7%	8.5	5.1	0.7	2.2%
Inflation to 2008	485%	189%	54%	24%	2.4%
House appreciation to 2008	+$361,894	+$320,039	+$117,141	+$162,467	+$16,390
House % gain to 2008	+1,250%	+452%	+43%	+71%	+4.3%
Annual return on investment	6.9%	6.1%	1.9%	6.1%	8.9%
TSX % gain to 2008	+1,244%	+656%	+249%	+67%	-0.9%
Annual return on investment	6.9%	7.2%	6.7%	5.6%	-2%

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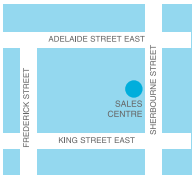

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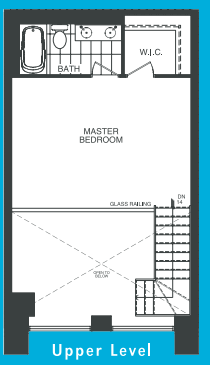

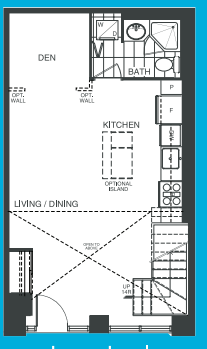

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Building on family-friendly living

Award winning FRAM Building Group has rolled back condominium lifestyles to a gentler, more affordable time with its new Holiday Towers masterplanned community near Etobicoke's West Mall.

First-time buyers, including those with young families right up to empty nesters will welcome the project because not only does it offer a convenient location but the prices are value oriented with two bedroom, two bathroom suites priced from $250,000.

"What makes them especially attractive is the surrounding mature, well-established residential neighbourhood," says Mariana Giannone of FRAM. "You are a few hundred feet away from Broadacres Park with its planned new daycare centre and children's play areas, a few minutes from Centennial Park with its Olympic swimming pool and within an easy stroll of schools, places of worship and all kinds of shopping."

A TTC bus stops at the corner, delivering passengers to the subway line in less than 10 minutes. By car, it is 12 minutes to the airport, 20 minutes to downtown and seven minutes to Cloverdale Mall and Sherway Gardens.

When completed the Holiday Towers community will consist of four point towers joined by a four-level podium, which will contain both amenities and residential suites wrapping around a lushly landscaped courtyard.

The towers and podium will feature suites ranging in size from a 440-square-foot studios, perfect for young singles, through one-bedroom-plus-dens, to two-bedrooms, right up to over 1,455-square-foot penthouses offering two bedrooms plus a den and two and one half baths as well. The first phase — on sale now — is the southernmost tower and connecting podium which offers 486 suites.

All suites have generous balconies and prices include a spot in the underground parking garage. Many podium level suites will enjoy locker space on the same floor. Over 75 per cent of the suites will come in under the $300,000 price point, Giannone adds and more than half will be two bedrooms and up.

"For many it will be the superb value and great lifestyle that Holiday Towers offers that will prove to be its great strength in today's market," she says.

Those amenities include an indoor pool with fully equipped change rooms and an adjacent outdoor sundeck. There will be steam rooms and saunas, a state-of-the-art fully equipped fitness centre plus Yoga/Pilates rooms, a party room with an attached outdoor landscaped terrace, a dining/meeting room, indoor Kidzone children's play rooms, furnished lounge and reading areas throughout and a pair of guest suites. The landscaped grounds include a walking/jogging path that encircles the entire community, barbecue area, a courtyard park area and lots of trees and greenery.

FRAM has paid special attention to ensuring a welcoming neighbourhood. It will have contributed almost $2 million to the city to create an expanded daycare centre, install playgrounds and trails, plant trees, enhance traffic and pedestrian safety and improve transit service in the area. An additional $1.5 million will be contributed by the developer toward parkland improvements, the majority of which will be spent on Broadacres Park and Centennial Park.

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Food

"Once you've had your fill of fresh berries, bake them into pies, muffins, cakes, cobblers or preserve in jams and jellies."

Barb Holland/for Metro Canada

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

À la carte

Barb Holland
Metro Food Writer

Beautiful blueberries

Canada is the world's largest producer of wild blueberries, one of nature's true blue foods. There are two basic types of blueberries: the smaller "wild" low bush berries and the larger high bush "cultivated" berries. While opinions differ, I think the smaller "wild" berries have a more intense flavour and bake better than the larger cultivated blueberries. Whatever type you pick or buy, both are delicious, wonderfully healthy and now's prime time to enjoy them.

Blueberry Breakfast Bread Pudding

This can be served for breakfast, brunch or dessert. Make the egg-bread mixture the night before. In the morning while the oven is preheating, add berries and bake. Makes 6 servings.

INGREDIENTS:
4 eggs
2 tbsp (30 mL) sugar
1 tsp (5 mL) vanilla
1-1/2 cups (375 mL) milk
4 day-old croissants
1-1/2 cups (375 mL) fresh blueberries, divided
¼ cup (60 mL) brown sugar
Icing sugar and/or maple syrup

METHOD:
Whisk eggs, sugar, vanilla and milk together. Cut croissants into 1-1/2 inch (4 cm) pieces. Press pieces into mixture, pushing under liquid. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours or overnight.

Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C). Butter an 8-inch (20 cm) square baking dish.

Gently add 1 cup (250 mL) blueberries to bread mixture; spoon into dish. Sprinkle with brown sugar and bake until puffed and bubbly, 30 to 35 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Serve warm with remaining berries, icing sugar and/or maple syrup.

Blueberry tips:

- The Pick of the Crop: Choose blueberries that are plump and brightly coloured, as berries do not ripen after they have been picked. Blueberries will be deep blue, dusted with a silvery frost. Size is not an indication of ripeness but colour is, so steer clear of blueberries that are still red. Likewise, pass over any berries that are shrivelled, mouldy or if their boxes are stained with berry juice, all indications the berries are past their prime.
- Good for you: Blueberries are a good source of fibre and have a high level of anthocyanins in the blue pigment, an antioxidant beneficial in fighting the effects of aging, heart disease and cancer. One cup (250 mL) blueberries has only 86 calories and supplies about 23 per cent vitamin C and 14 per cent fibre of our recommended daily requirements.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

FOODLAND ONTARIO PHOTO

Whatever type you pick or buy, blueberries are delicious, wonderfully healthy and now's prime time to enjoy them.

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Barbecue pairings

"Ontario does not produce blockbuster-style wine — but what we do is good editions of medium bodied, French/Italian-style reds that fit the barbecue bill." To read this week's Billy's Best Bottles column, visit metronews.ca.

Breakfasts, brunch, inn-style

Sylvia Main's Fairholme Manor Inn in Victoria, B.C., inspired Fabulous Fairholme: Breakfasts and Brunches, a cookbook that reflects the elegant hospitality and lifestyle guests enjoy while staying at Sylvia's inn. This beautiful book provides readers with practical tips to recreate the flavours of the award-winning Fairholme at home. Whitecap Books offered Metro the following decadent recipe from the book to give you something to look forward to in the morning:

Baked Raspberry French Toast

This recipe can be made with brown rice bread instead of Italian bread for gluten-free diets.

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 slices day-old Italian bread, cut into 1/2" cubes
- 1/2 cup fresh or frozen raspberries or blueberries
- 2 ounces cream cheese, cut into 1/2" cubes
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 1/4 teaspoon poppy seeds

METHOD:

The night before:

Grease two 8-ounce ramekins or large muffin tins. Line bottom half of tins with bread cubes. Cover with raspberries or blueberries and cream cheese cubes and top with remaining bread. Mix eggs, milk and syrup and sprinkle with poppy seeds. Pour mixture over bread, cover and let soak overnight in refrigerator.

In the morning:

Bake at 350 F for 25-30 minutes or until puffy and golden. Remove French toast from ramekins and top with Berry Compote or Lemon Sauce.

Berry Compote:

INGREDIENTS:

- zest and juice 1 lemon
- 1 tablespoon water
- 4 cups fresh or frozen berries
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon

METHOD:

Combine all ingredients in a saucepan and simmer over medium heat until berries begin to break down and sauce starts to thicken. Serve over French toast.

Lemon sauce:

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 egg
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons lemon juice
- zest 1 large lemon
- 1 tablespoon butter

METHOD:

Whisk together first four ingredients and cook over low heat, stirring constantly.

After sauce begins to thicken, stir in butter just to combine. Serve warm over French toast as an alternative to the berry compote.

Fabulous Fairholme: Breakfasts and Brunches by Sylvia Main is available in hardcover at Amazon.ca for $18.87 and includes this recipe, above, for Baked Raspberry French Toast.

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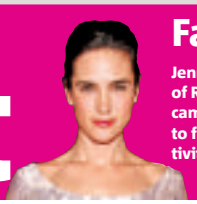
Love sued over Nirvana proceeds
A business management and accounting firm has sued rocker Courtney Love for failing to fork over a percentage of the proceeds after selling a portion of Nirvana's publishing rights for $19.5 million US. E! NEWS ONLINE

Entertainment



Face of Revlon

Jennifer Connelly is the latest face of Revlon's global advertising campaign. The actress also plans to front Revlon's philanthropic activities and charity fundraising.
PEOPLE.COM

Wakestock hits the water

Four-day action sports, music festival takes off on Toronto Island

AMANDA TRUSCOTT
for Metro Canada

This year, wakeskaters at Wakestock will do something that's never been done in competition before.

Instead of being pulled through a pool to a set of rails, and jumping from the rails to another pool, they'll go from the pool to the rails, then into the main watercourse.

"Going from pool to water is a whole new thing for the sport," says Steve Jarrett, co-founder of the four-day action sports and music festival.

Wakeskating is an adaptation of wakeboarding, a water sport that combines the techniques of waterskiing, surfing and snowboarding. Wakeboarders are attached to a board by a set of bindings, but wakeskaters aren't. Without the bindings, they have the freedom to perform skateboard-style tricks.

Jarrett says wakeskating is this year's hottest wakeboarding category and that's why at this year's festival, for the first time, the pool jam will take place right in the middle of the crowd at the waterfront. But wakeskating isn't the only sport featured at Wakestock, which showcases four different styles of wakeboarding, as well as skateboarding and motocross motorcycle riding.

More than 20 bands will play the event, including Metric, We Are Scientists, and RZA & GZA of the Wu-Tang Clan. Wakestock also features a bikini contest, an action sports consumer show, and downtown after-parties with big-name DJs such as k-os sand Lil Jazz.

"It's kind of a mix of the X-Games, Edgefest or Warped Tour, and Florida spring break all rolled into one four-day festival," Jarrett says.

Wakestock's different elements are all part of the action sport lifestyle, he says. "The lifestyle is really what anchors Wakestock as a multifaceted festival, and really, that's what the essence of all these action sports are. They're really lifestyle-driven, youth-based, innovative sports."

According to Jarrett, innovation is a big part of the festival's mandate. He promises a new custom-built rail course for wakeboarders, and a custom-built skateboard park, where some of the world's best pro skateboarders are set to demonstrate their skills.

But Wakestock isn't just about watching the pros, Jarrett says.

"We invite the average skateboarder to come and bring his skateboard instead of checking it at the gate," he says. "And we have freeskate sessions, so they can actually skate the pro park when the contest and pro demos aren't going on," he adds. Amateurs will have a chance to hit the watercourse, too, in the festival's novice wakeboarding events.

Get going

- Wakestock kicks off today on Centre Island, a short ferry ride from downtown.
- For more information, visit wakestock.com

Van Damme film included in TIFF midnight madness lineup

Action star Jean-Claude Van Damme's latest film, JCVD, will be screened at the Toronto International Film Festival, organizers announced yesterday.

Van Damme plays himself in a story about the comeback of one of the biggest action stars in movie history.

The film is included in the festival's Midnight Madness lineup.

Other midnight screenings include Not Quite Hollywood starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Dennis Hopper, Stacy Keach and Quentin Tarantino; the Australian film Acolytes, about the murder of a Canadian backpacker; and the France-Canada production Martyrs, about a girl who goes missing for more than a year.

The festival's Wavelengths section of avant-garde film and video will include works by American filmmaker Nathaniel Dorsky, French director Jean-Marie Straub, German art star Olaf Nicolai and the late British conceptual art pioneer John Latham.

The Sprockets Family Zone of children's cinema will feature the film Krabat from Germany; Mia et le Migou, France-Italy; The Secret of Moonacre, U.K.-Hungary-France; and Sunshine Barry & the Disco Worms, Denmark-Germany.

The festival runs Sept. 4-13.

GETTY FILE PHOTO

Jean-Claude Van Damme

Hulk's son to stay in adult facility

Nick Bollea

PEOPLE Hulk Hogan's son Nick Bollea is set to spend the rest of his prison sentence in an adult facility and will be transferred on his 18th birthday, according to reports.

The former wrestler's son is serving an eight-month sentence at Florida's Pinellas County Jail after pleading no contest to a felony of reckless driving following a horrific car crash in Clearwater, Fla., which has left his friend John Graziano brain damaged, imdb.com reports.

The teenager spent his first few weeks in prison in solitary confinement, but was later housed with other juveniles. METRO NEWS SERVICES

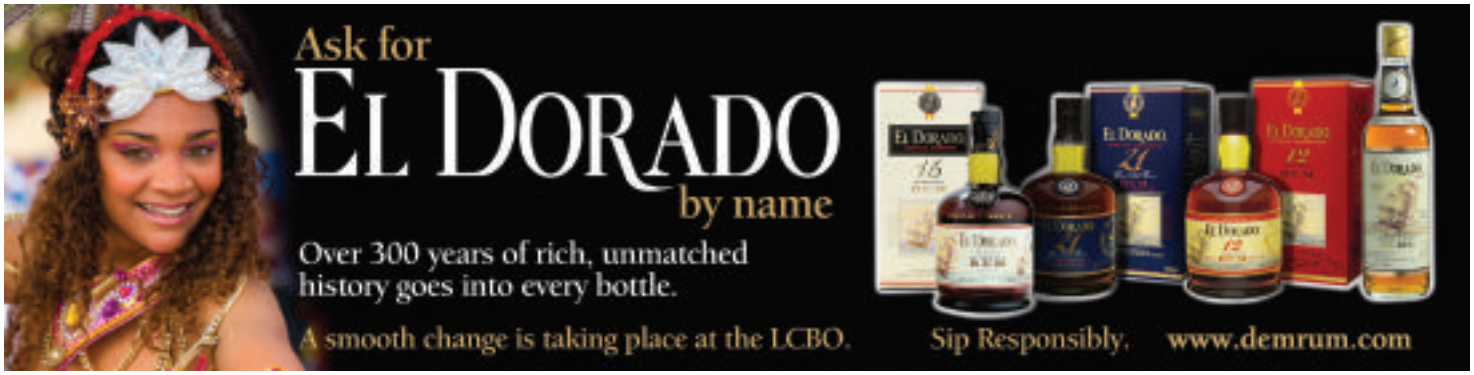
Gaming

Teen films turned into video games

MOVIES Teen movies Clueless, Mean Girls and Pretty In Pink are set to hit the video game market, imdb.com reports.

Fans of Alicia Silverstone, Lindsay Lohan and Molly Ringwald will get the chance to become the actresses' characters on-screen, thanks to the games, which are being created by Hollywood studio Paramount.

Paramount bosses hand-picked the titles to kick off the studio's collaboration with gaming firm Legacy Interactive, reports Daily Variety. The three films were chosen because of their appeal to female audiences. METRO NEWS SERVICES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Funnyman Vince Vaughn has topped a list of stars who give their studios best value for the money. Vaughn earned $14.73 US for every $1 he was paid in his last three movies. IMDB.COM

Entertainment in brief

MOVIES It looks like Will Farrell and Adam McKay, the brains behind Anchorman, are ready to put the sexist, freewheeling newscaster back in the anchor chair, ew.com reports. McKay has said he and Farrell have begun work on a sequel that could jump ahead a decade to the '80s. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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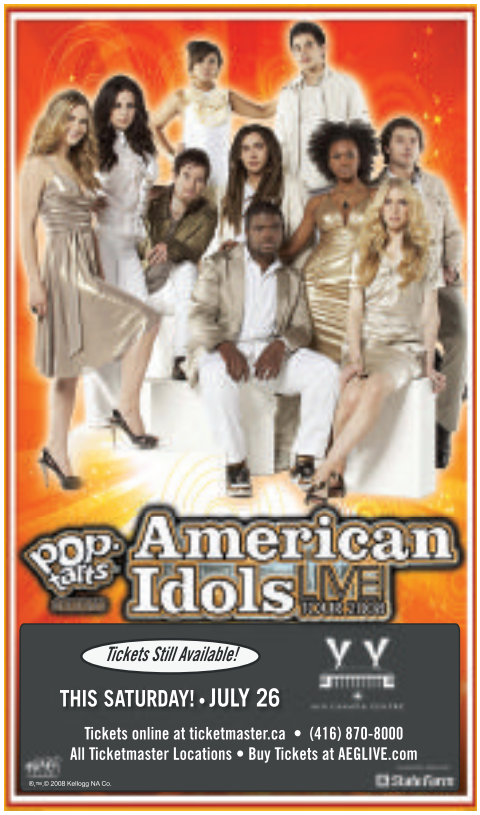
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Canning the humble

Broken Social Scenester releases second solo album

BRIAN TOWIE
brian.towie@metronews.ca

Though he may not have the sensationalist surrealism of Big Brother, Brendan Canning doesn't mind inviting you into his modest world.

The bass-playing Broken Social Scene co-founder and former member of 1990s Canadian alt-rock group hHead recently finished recording his solo album, Something For All of Us (released Tuesday), the second project under the Broken Social Scene Presents moniker that showcases individual work — as individual as it gets with them, anyway — from the Toronto-based indie collective's members.

Much like the group's previous side projects, BSS alumni contributions (co-founder Kevin Drew, Andrew Whiteman, Justin Peroff, Ohad Benchetrit, the gang's all here) are ubiquitous on Canning's diverse album, and in the same vein as Whiteman's National Anthem of Nowhere under the Apostle of Hustle brand, production was meticulous and slow-moving, so much so that Something For All of Us came out one year late.

Canning's opus was to coincide with the release of the other existing BSS Presents title, Drew's Spirit If…, which dropped last September, though an earlier version of Canning's album leaked online in June.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CANVAS MEDIA

Broken Social Scene co-founder Brendan Canning's solo album Something For All of Us is now in stores.

"I've never been the greatest at making deadlines," laughs Canning, 38. "I wasn't surprised about the leak either. I just wasn't happy with the minute details of some of the songs, so I spent a lot of time touching them up for store releases. If you got the online version, you don't get to go out to your local record store and support the music. But then, what's that all going to mean 100 years from now, really?"

In concert

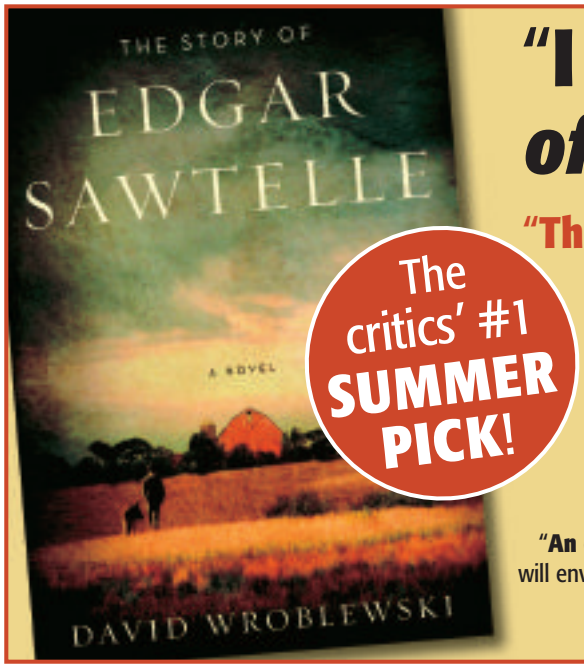
Brendan Canning plays the Hillside Festival in Guelph on July 27.

"I wasn't surprised about the leak … I just wasn't happy with the minute details of some of the songs, so I spent a lot of time touching them up for store releases."
Musician
Brendan Canning

But while Drew kept his effort under lock and key, Canning was quite open to revealing his process, allowing Bruce McDonald, director of 1996 mockumentary Hard Core Logo, into the studio to film the closing days of Canning assembling his diverse array of driving bassy undercurrents and unpretentious bangers, such as single Hit the Wall. Titled The Raw Side Of Brendan Canning, the documentary is tentatively set to air on IFC in the fall.

"It's weird having a camera crew around when you're trying to record. You get self-conscious, but Bruce and I have worked before. We're friends and he's very respectful," he said.

"I guess I could have gotten myself arrested or drugged up or angrily smashed stuff to make better television, but I let it be. What can I tell you? It's an unapologetic look at the humble life of a musician in the middle class suburbs."



"I flat-out loved *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*." –Stephen King

"The most enchanting debut novel of the summer.... a great, big, mesmerizing read." –*The New York Times*

"I relished every minute of it." –*The Globe and Mail*

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"**An epic story full of magic and secrets, understanding and truth**.... the sort of story that will envelop you and hold you, cocooned away from time and kids and deadlines." –*Montreal Gazette*

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Berkley says yes to L Word
Actress Elizabeth Berkley is joining the Showtime hit the L Word for a multi-episode arc, sources confirm. She'll play the straight girl that got away from Jennifer Beals' Bette in college. **EW.COM**

Brendan **Canning**

Album: Something For All Of Us
Label: Arts & Crafts
Release date: July 22
Rating:

THERE'S SOMETIMES a fine line between noise and art. Brendan Canning has enjoyed walking that line with Toronto's Broken Social Scene. Now he's drawing the line a little finer with his solo debut. He pulls it off successfully with the help of a strong contingent of BSS friends such as guitarist Andrew Whiteman and keyboardist/bassist Kevin Drew and singers Amy Millan and Lisa Lobsinger. When you've got somebody like Whiteman playing guitar for you, even the noise sounds good.
Graham Rockingham

She & **Him**

Album: Volume One
Label: Merge
Release date: July 22
Rating:

ACTORS HAVE been dabbling in music for decades, but almost no one has done it as well as Almost Famous actress Zooey Deschanel. Playing under the moniker She & Him, Deschanel teams up with Merge's M. Ward and together they've created a stunning alt-country debut. This is Not A Test is one of the best songs here — it sounds straight out of '70s Nashville —but some of the duo's covers, including The Beatle's I Should Have Known Better, are interesting as well. Russell Crowe better be taking notes. **Bryan Borzykowski**

CD**Reviews**
music@metronews.ca

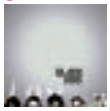
Dr. **Dog**

Album: Fate
Label: Park the Van Records
Release date: July 22
Rating:

PHILADELPHIA'S DR. DOG displays a fascinating meld of influences on Fate. The quirky vocal harmonies and unique instrumentation on this 11-track disc sometimes harken back to Big Pink-era The Band. In some ways, Fate is defined by Zach Miller's old-west piano stylings. Not that it's all throwback or country — the funky touches come as a welcome surprise and quite naturally. And who knew strings could swing? **Jim Reyno**

Black **Kids**

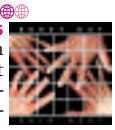
Album: Partie Traumatic
Label: Red Ink/Sony BMG
Release date: July 22
Rating:



THE BUZZ around Jacksonville's Black Kids has been steadily growing since their CMJ appearance last year, but it's only now that all the hype gets put to the test. Fortunately, their debut disc delivers. Partie Traumatic is an uplifting, frenetic rock record that recalls '80s-influenced boy-girl bands like the GO Team! and The Ting Tings. While the disc isn't perfect — it's a bit too heavy on the synth — its infectious hooks and energetic songwriting should impress even the most jaded indie rock fans. **Bryan Borzykowski**

Buddy **Guy**

Album: Skin Deep
Label: Silvertone/Zomba /Sony BMG
Release date: July 22
Rating:



BUDDY GUY IS pretty much the greatest living practitioner of electric blues guitar in the world (I use the qualifier "pretty much" out of respect to B.B. King fans). There's only a few who come close, including Eric Clapton, Derek Trucks and Robert Randolph. Luckily, all three are featured on Guy's latest guitar feast, Skin Deep. The duet with Clapton on Every Time I Sing The Blues is spine-tingling good. **Graham Rockingham**

The Midway **State**

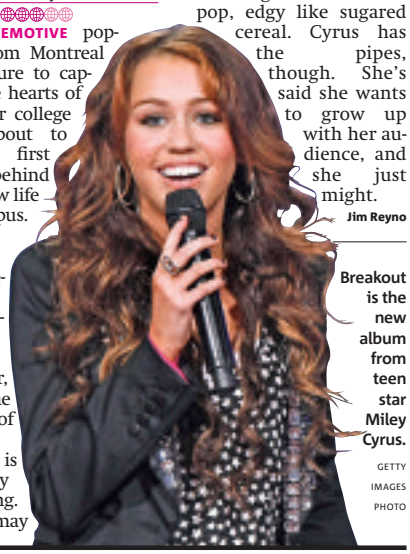
Album: Holes
Label: Remedy/EMI
Release date: July 22
Rating:

WHINY EMOTIVE pop-rock from Montreal that's sure to capture the hearts of first-year college kids about to leave first loves behind for a new life on campus. There's strong craft beneath the derivative goop, however, and the voice of Nathan Ferraro is strangely appealing. That may be just enough to set this foursome apart from the radio pap. There's five or six tracks on this album that are guaranteed to garner a lot of downloads.
Graham Rockingham

Miley **Cyrus**

Album: Breakout
Label: Hollywood Records
Release date: July 22
Rating:

HAVE YOU EVER wanted to just … breakout! Have you ever felt like, I don't know, doing your homework after supper instead of immediately when you get home from school? Such is the good-girl angst of Miley Cyrus. The 15-year-old megastar co-wrote eight of the 12 tracks on Breakout — inoffensive and forgettable kiddie pop, edgy like sugared cereal. Cyrus has the pipes, though. She's said she wants to grow up with her audience, and she just might.
Jim Reyno



Breakout is the new album from teen star Miley Cyrus. GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

Entertainment in brief

MUSIC Oasis blames the English football team for delaying the release of its new album Dig Out Your Soul, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The release was pushed back to October so the band could watch the European Championships — only for England not to qualify for the finals. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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From Hancock to Hercules

Hancock director Peter Berg is set to produce and direct Hercules: The Thracian Wars. The script, penned by Ryan Condal, will be based on a five-issue comic-book series by Steve Moore. EW.COM

Judge upholds charges against accused stalker

IN COURT A criminal court judge has upheld charges against a Long Island, N.Y., man accused of stalking Saturday Night Live producer Lorne Michaels.

A misdemeanour complaint says 31-year-old Evans Pidhajecky claimed Michaels overheard his conversations and singing and used his thoughts on the SNL show without his permission.

The complaint says an "upset" Pidhajecky tried to contact Michaels several times at NBC's Manhattan studios and at his home to "chat." Police arrested Pidhajecky in December and charged him with stalking and resisting arrest.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Two fists of twisted rock'

Bobnoxious is comin' at ya with unique musical melting pot

SANDY CAETANO
sandy.caetano@metronews.ca

Capturing the emotions on paper and then transferring it into music is something Bob Reid prefers to do at the moment he's experiencing it — not months or a year down the road.

The Bobnoxious lead singer tells Metro that it's when you sit on a particular song for too long that you can lose the sincerity and forget how it came about.

It's also a bonus having a recording studio right in his own backyard.

"For me, when I have an idea, I'm able to work on it right then and there, and capture the actual feeling that's going on at the time," says Reid, of the London rock band.

"Whereas some people write a song and then months later they go into the studio and record it, so I think you lose some of that feeling for that particular song."

Bobnoxious, who will be playing Toronto's Rancho Relaxo (300 College St.) tomorrow night, just released their fourth full-length album SuperScar (Wannabe Records/Fontana North/Universal), which offers more of the band's take on life — experiences they've gone through and things they've had to deal with since their last album, Rockaholics (2006).

The inspiration behind SuperScar's genius is everyday life — and for Reid and bandmates guitarist Jeff Bialkowski, bassist Stan Fountain and drummer David Wyles, that's the way music should be constructed. The kind of music they write depends on the mood they're in, thus the creation of the rocking party anthem and pun-filled relations behind SuperScar.

"I actually take a lot of pride in the lyrics to the songs, because I know that the feelings and how I feel in what I'm writing goes into the song," he says.

"Later, if there's certain words I want to take out — but not lose the meaning — but find a tongue-in-cheek way of delivering it, that's what I do."

With influences like the old rock 'n roll sounds of Elvis and Chuck Barry, and other bands like Kiss, AC/DC, Black Sabbath, Judas Priest and Slayer, the sound of Bobnoxious is a big mash of everything Reid has ever heard over the years.

"It's two fists of twisted rock 'n roll; I don't know how else to really describe it. We sound like so many things to me … for me, it's just me being me," says Reid.

Bobnoxious writes while the thoughts are still fresh.

Bobnoxious

- **Where:** Rancho Relaxo, 300 College St.
- **When:** Tomorrow night, doors open at 9 p.m.
- **Tickets:** $5

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Princess Portman
Actress Natalie Portman plays a Bollywood princess in her boyfriend Devendra Banhart's new music video. Her character must be saved from peril by Devendra's "rebellious beard" in the promo for Carmensita. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

TV host Williams 'a fake,' Omarosa says

Omarosa is not sorry for sparring on-air with Wendy Williams. "I stand by everything I said," Omarosa said Tuesday.

The reality star, whose full name is Omarosa Manigault-Stallworth, appeared Monday on The Wendy Williams Show to promote her upcoming book but instead spent more time trading insults with radio personality-turned-talk show host Williams, who infamously engaged Whitney Houston during an interview on her radio show in 2003.

"When you're not honest with the American people, they do not respond well to you," said Omarosa, who became famous after appearing on the first season of NBC's The Apprentice. "She should just go ask Star Jones about that. Honesty needs to be there. She's a phoney. As long as she continues to be a fake and a phoney, she won't be successful."

Omarosa told the AP that the show's promos and introductions for her appearance are what originally ruffled her feathers and prompted her to tell Williams that she would not be disrespected. Things got uglier when Williams grabbed Omarosa's book cover to hold it up to the camera, and Omarosa yanked it back out of Williams' hand.

"She snatched it out of my hand," Omarosa told the AP. "She didn't say, 'Can I see it?'"

The tussle gave way to Omarosa attacking Williams' appearance, asking her whether she had had a nose job and suggesting she shouldn't wear wigs. During the heated exchange, Williams called Omarosa a "typical angry black woman" and advised Omarosa that cosmetic injections could fix her wrinkles.

Following Omarosa's appearance, Williams told the AP she thought the unprovoked aggression was a publicity stunt and called Omarosa "a delusional, D-list, pathetic woman."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Backgrounder

- Omarosa was a contestant on the first season of The Apprentice in 2004. She later appeared on VH1's The Surreal Life and The Celebrity Apprentice.

No nuptials

Reality TV star Kelly Osbourne has laughed off rumours she is engaged. She sparked rumours she is to wed boyfriend Luke Worrell after she was photographed this week sporting a ring on her ring finger. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Gossip Girl promos: Mind-blowingly inappropriate?

Gossip Girl will get people talking. At least, that seems likely as the CW network brings to a boil its new campaign for the sexy prep-school soap.

The show's second season begins Sept. 1, following an August promotion to put viewers, um, in the mood. And here's a twist: The racy ads co-opt language from the very criticism of the show for being too, well, racy.

Alert surfers got a preview last week, when images of coupled-up Gossip Girl characters found their way onto several websites.

Item: Here's Serena van der Woodsen (series blond Blake Lively) with eyes shut dreamily, mouth open, while a friend, his face buried in her tresses, nuzzles her neck.

Strongly suggesting the pair are just getting started, the headline, which quotes The Boston Herald, declares: "Every Parent's Nightmare."

Other such moments (on a couch, in the sack or apparently skinny-dipping) are accompanied by headlines such as "A Nasty Piece of Work" and "Mind-Blowingly Inappropriate."

That latter phrase was taken from the Parents Television Council, which has blasted the show's salacious content since its premiere.

CW marketing boss Rick Haskins said the ads just aim to get noticed.

"This is the sort of campaign," he said, "that resonates with someone who likes Gossip Girl," specifically, women ages 18 to 34.

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Jonas bros. buy house in Dallas

The Jonas Brothers are reported to have bought a house in a Dallas-Fort Worth suburb — and some young neighbours sound thrilled.

Tarrant County records obtained by The Dallas Morning News indicate the three band members granted power of attorney to their mother, Denise Jonas, to buy a $2.8-million, six-bedroom house in Vaquero, a gated community in the suburb of Westlake. The documents were signed June 12.

A real estate agent confirmed the house's sale but said the contract prevented her from commenting further.

A publicist for the band, which began a tour last month, declined to comment.

"Yeah, I heard they are moving into the area!" nine-year-old Emily Clark said with wide eyes as she jumped out of the pool at Westlake's Solana Club. They're coming in three months, she said with an air of certainty.

The exclusive neighbourhood already includes major leaguer Mark Teixeira, former star quarterbacks Drew Bledsoe and Terry Bradshaw, not to mention several pro golfers.

Pro golfer Brian Watts discovered he might have new neighbours when he returned from Japan.

"I didn't even know who the Jonas Brothers were or what kind of music they played," Watts said. "But my wife and kids were enthralled."

The eldest of the three brothers, 20-year-old Kevin, was born in Dallas but grew up in New Jersey with brothers Joe, 18, and Nick, 15. They live in Los Angeles County now.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jonas albums

- The Jonas Brothers have released two albums: It's About Time in 2006 and Jonas Brothers in 2007. They will release A Little Bit Longer in 2008.

Extramarital Sex in the City?

MATTHEW BRODERICK Star magazine is claiming actor Matthew Broderick has cheated on his wife, actress Sarah Jessica Parker.

His rep has no comment.

E! NEWS ONLINE

Pink to drop fresh tracks

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Pink has announced plans to release a fifth, as-yet-untitled, studio album Oct. 28. The debut single, So What, is due out in early August. **E! NEWS ONLINE**

galleries

ARTCORE GALLERY SCULPTURE SUPERNOVA: Group show. To Aug. 31. 55 Mill, building 62.
ARTISTS OF THE WORLD: More than 6,000 contemporary pieces from Canadian and international artists. Ongoing. 176 Yonge, 6th floor.
A SPACE GALLERY: Enacting Emancipation: Works by James Luna, Emily Jacir, Erica Lord, John Halaka. To Aug 2. 401 Richmond W., suite 110. 416-979-9633.
AWOL GALLERY: The Cook Book: Mixed media by Vanessa Vaughn. To July 27. 76 Ossington. 416-535-5637.
BLACK MARKET: Reality Check: Mixed media by Global Aware artists. Ongoing. 256A Queen W. 416-596-0138.
CANADIAN SCULPTURE CENTRE INAUGURAL EXHIBITION: Group show. To July 25. 500 Church. 647-435-5858.
DRABINSKY GALLERY: Stone Thoughts: Works by Wu Wing Yee. To Aug 30. Original Drawings by Leonard Cohen. To Aug 30. 122 Scollard. 416-324-5766.
THE HIDEOUT: How Done It? A Game of Clue for Photography Lovers: By Paddy Jane Gallagher. Ongoing. 484 Queen W. 647-438-7644.
ILEO TURNING POINTE: Photos of artists of The National Ballet of Canada by Sian Richards. To July 31. 55 Mill, building 35.
INTERACCESS ELECTRONIC MEDIA ARTS CENTRE: Resonating Bodies — Bumble Domicile: Works by various artists. To July 27. 9 Ossington. www.interaccess.org.
JUSTINA M. BARNICKE GALLERY: Stories, In Pieces: Works by various artists. To Aug 24. 7 Hart House Circle. 416-978-8398.
MONTE CLARK GALLERY: Figures: Works by Stephen Waddell. To Sun. 55 Mill, bldg 2. 416-703-1700.
PIKTO GALLERY: Photos by Eamon MacMahon. To Aug 24. 55 Mill, bldg 59, suite 103. 416-203-3443.
SANDRA AINSLEY GALLERY: Seeking Balance: Works by Peter Powning. To Aug 10. 55 Mill, bldg 32. 416-214-9490.
THOMPSON LANDRY GALLERY: Works by Nicolas Ruel. To Aug 4. 55 Mill, bldg 5. 416-364-4955.

Multitalented Cohen's artwork

The Drabinsky Gallery is featuring the Original Drawings by acclaimed singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen to Aug. 30.

theatre

AS YOU LIKE IT: Shakespeare's comedy performed outdoors. To Aug 2. Wed-Sat., 8 p.m. $10/$8 student, senior/PWYC Wed. Philosopher's Stage, 80 Queen's Park. 416-978-8849. www.uofttix.ca.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: Presented by Cow Over Moon Children's Theatre. To July 27. Thu-Fri, Sun 2 p.m.; Thu-Fri 11 a.m. $8-$12. Burnhamthorpe Library Theatre, 1350 Burnhamthorpe W. 905-510-8210. www.cowovermoon.ca.
CINDERELLA: The classic fairytale adapted by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. To July 26. Tue-Wed 8 p.m. $22. Bathurst Street Theatre, 736 Bathurst. 416-872-1111. www.ticketmaster.ca.
THE GLADSTONE VARIATIONS: Four connected plays provide a journey through The Gladstone Hotel. To Aug 3. Sun-Fri 7 p.m.; Mon 1:30 p.m. $20-$30. Gladstone Hotel, 1214 Queen W. 416-504-7529. www.artsboxoffice.ca.
HORSE FEATHERS: An outdoor play about the bygone days of the Dufferin Race Track, with giant puppets. To Aug 17. Previews Thu. Wed-Sun 7:30 p.m. PWYC, $10 sugg. Dufferin Grove Park. www.clayandpappertheatre.org.
THE LIGHT THAT STANDS STILL: An outdoor performance with puppets to honour the 200th anniversary of the lighthouse at Gibraltar Point. To July 27. Thu-Sun, 8 p.m. $10-$15/$45 family. Toronto Island. 416-203-0946.www.shadowlandtheatre.ca.

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critics'corner

Ugly Betty
Talk about picking the wrong person to pick on! Wilhelmina's (Vanessa Williams) effort to shake her "mean girl" image suffers a setback when she scuffles with an elderly woman over a cab. Not just any elderly woman — beloved octogenarian actress Betty White (guest starring as herself). The other Betty (America Ferrera) agrees to an unusual double date in "Bananas for Betty." 8 PM on ABC CITY

Year of the Dog
Anyone who's ever had a beloved pet knows how devastating its death can be. In this 2007 dramedy, Molly Shannon stars as Peggy, a single woman whose life revolves around her dog. When he unexpectedly dies, she's at a loss. Everyone tries to help, including members of her vet's staff, one of whom encourages her to adopt an abused canine. Both the dog's and the employee's intrusions into her life cause serious changes. Regina King and Laura Dern co-star. 11 PM on M1

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 7/24/08	265	353	2	TVO	Megabridges		The Best of The Agenda		New Tricks "Casualty"		Masterworks (N)		Best-Agenda
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Last Comic Standing (N)				Swingtown "Puzzlerama"		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	MLS Soccer Pepsi All-Star Game -- MLS All-Stars vs. West Ham United.					Countdown to	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Ugly Betty (HDTV)		Supernatural (HDTV)		Hopkins (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy! (N)	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		So You Think You Can Dance		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Greatest American Dog		Final 24 Marvin Gaye.		Fear Itself "Community"		News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama été	Frontières	Esprit	Esprit	*Au revoir les enfants* ★★★ (1987, Drame) Gaspard Manesse.				Volt
	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	*Mindfield* ★★ (1989, Suspense) Michael Ironside.				To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Greatest American Dog		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Swingtown "Puzzlerama"		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Last Comic Standing (N)				Fear Itself "Community"		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty (HDTV)		Grey's Anatomy		Hopkins (HDTV) (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Private Practice		Grey's Anatomy		Stargate SG-1 (DVS)		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		So You Think You Can Dance		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Goodnight Swt.	American Experience (DVS)			American Experience (DVS)			Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Hero" (HDTV)		Supernatural (HDTV)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Our World	The Hour		CBC News: The National		The Nature of Things		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		CNN Presents "Black in America: Black Women & Family" (N)				Cooper 360
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		The Suze Orman Show		Asia Squawk Box		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Boxing Ryan Henny vs. Frank White.				European Poker Tour		Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	Boxing	CFL Pregame	CFL Football Calgary Stampeders at Winnipeg Blue Bombers. (HDTV) (Live)						ATP Tennis
	411	457	58	OLN	Departures "Canada"		Cycling Tour de France Stage 18. From Bourg-d'Oisans to Saint-Etienne, France.						Don't Forget
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time (N)	Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV) (N)		Wrecked (N)	Wrecked (N)	Pinks
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Merrie Melody	Loonatics	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	*Blade* ★★ (1998, Horror) Wesley Snipes.		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Open House	Save Us-House	House
	570	580	29	MM	Instant Star	Born to Be	Muchmusic Countdown			Instant Star	Instant Star	MuchTopTens	
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Wannabe"		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Movie				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In...Love	Canadian Idol		Canadian Idol	Uncovered	Celebracadabra		Canadian Idol
	575	583	38	CMT	(6) Ultimate "Legends"		Beyond Chance		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Dedicated (N)
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis "Talk to Him"		Intelligence		G-Spot	Exes & Ohs	Secret Diary	Secret Diary	House
	620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	In the Mind ...	*Runaway Jury* ★★★ (2003, Suspense) John Cusack, Gene Hackman.					Timestorm	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	End of Leash	Til Debt-Part	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Last 10	Bulging Brides	The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Mind Games"		Bloody Italy		Bloody Christmas - Ortona		NCIS "Mind Games"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	Reality Bites	Tom Green	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes (N)		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Junk Brothers	The Big Flip	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	*Van Helsing* ★★ (2004, Fantasy) Hugh Jackman, Kate Beckinsale.					Frasier	Seinfeld
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Hell Date	Black Carpet	DewMocracy	*Never 2 Big* ★★ (1998, Crime Drama) Ernie Hudson.				Hell Date
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager		The Triangle "Part Two" (Part 2 of 3)				Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	MTV Screen	Cribs	4REAL	Next	Living on Edge	Living on Edge	True Life (N)		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Inside Hollywood (DVS)		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Boy Grill	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Secret Life of	Ace of Cakes
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		May-December	Keeping Up	Islam in China	Bring It Beijing	Bring It Beijing	Building Faith	Confucius
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Katie & Peter: Next Chapter		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	The Wiggles	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Big Comfy	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Gags	*Jerry, souffre-douleur* ★★ (1964, Comédie)			Héros "Mauvaises rencontres"		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	*Étudiants*
	126	730	102	RDI	RDI en direct	400 fois Qué	Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		*Recipe for Revenge* (1998, Crime Drama), Alex Carter				Traders		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *Dead at 17* (2008, Drama) Barbara Niven.				*Death at a Funeral* ★★★ (2007, Comedy-Drama)				*Year of Dog*
	305	612	306	PIX	*The Professionals* ★★★ (1966, Western) Lee Marvin.				*The Fifth Element* ★★★ (1997, Science Fiction)				*Repulsion*

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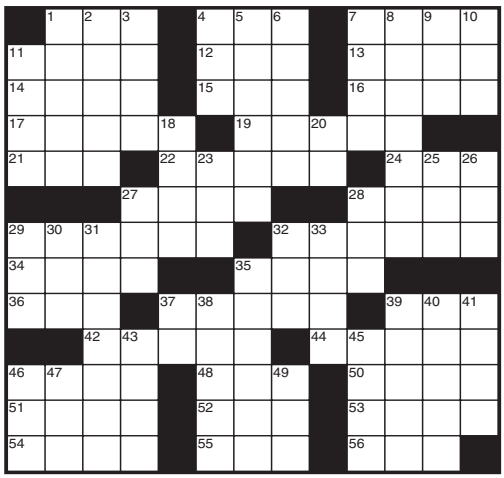
Dudek expecting
Former House actress Anne Dudek, right, is expecting her first child with artist husband Matthew Heller. She showed off her bump for the first time at the premiere of Season 2 of her new show Mad Men in Los Angeles recently. IMDB.COM

Take Five



Crossword down

1 Thin material
2 Lopsided
3 Archie or Jughead
4 Type of parrot
5 Lucky charm
6 Canada territory
7 Show sadness
8 Cheese dish
9 Spacewalk, to NASA
10 After deductions
11 Implored
18 Hot — — oven
20 Beehive St.
23 Excavation
25 Pamplona cheer
26 Rather or Aykroyd
27 Big clock
28 Kind of stove
29 Luau strings
30 Thieve
31 Chewing the fat
32 Agree silently
33 New Age singer
35 California motto
37 Yes, to Pablo
38 Snicker (hyph.)
39 Tooth type
40 Really go for
41 Smell awful
43 Nerve network
45 Pig movie
46 Classified items
47 Drop — — line
49 Mal de —

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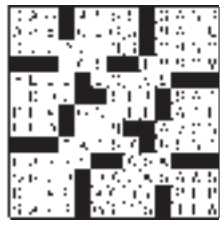
Crossword across

1 Huge container
4 Jay successor
7 Small brown bird
11 Work as a model
12 Outback bird
13 Gutter site
14 Take pleasure in
15 Puffin kin
16 Latin 101 word
17 "Maria —"
19 Jeweler's lens
21 Natural moisture
22 Made purchases
24 Build, slangily
27 Minnows
28 Large lizard
29 High-priority
32 Put in order
34 Zen riddle
35 Untold centuries
36 Flow back
37 Hit the books
39 Damage superficially
42 Bramble
44 House
46 Yves' girlfriend
48 Skirt border
50 Lotion additive
51 Soup-can flaw
52 Just scrape by
53 Dog noise
54 Prudent
55 Hearing aid?
56 Prior to

previous day's answer



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
An unfair situation will be revealed. Self-indulgence will have a certain appeal. Allow yourself to develop stronger willpower.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Adjustments will have to be made. A lost object is under a car. Be ready for shocking disclosures. Gossip will clarify strange reactions.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Socializing will get complicated. A false story wipes out some plans. Don't get bent out of shape over a fiasco.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A lucky occasion arises for a heart in waiting. Bad timing causes a woman to spill the beans. A better place will be found for you.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
An embarrassment is diminished by a cheerful player. A visitor makes a scary mistake. Old folks are stunned by false friends.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
An odd friend will get down and dirty. You'll find peace of mind in a bad state of affairs. Your friendships will bring good luck.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Be gracious to someone who needs your support. All will go well if you give it a chance. Plan to meet and meddle with the right person.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24- NOV 22
Follow your dreams to make things right. An offer is made and refused. An idiotic scandal breaks out due to obedience.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23- DEC 21
An adventure will give you giggles. An obstacle will be triumphed over. A humane visitor will offer you some bizarre advice.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Bondage to a bad habit can be broken. When boredom sets in, you'll wish you had a hobby. Be prudent, cautious, and brave.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Someone's passion causes euphoria. All will be well between new partners. A love chat flourishes despite shyness.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MAR 20
A defiant person will be punished. Dedicate yourself to eating in moderation. A lover's quarrel will be blown out of proportion.

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This day in history

JULY 24, 1567: Mary Queen of Scots is deposed and replaced by her one-year-old son James VI.
JULY 24, 1967: During an official state visit to Canada, French President Charles de Gaulle declares to a crowd of more than 100,000 in Montreal: "Vive le Québec libre!" (Long live free Quebec!). The statement, interpreted as support for Quebec independence, delighted many Quebecers but angered the Canadian government and many English Canadians.
JULY 24, 1974: Watergate Scandal: The United States Supreme Court unanimously rules that President Richard Nixon did not have the authority to withhold subpoenaed White House tapes and it orders him to surrender the tapes to the Watergate special prosecutor.
JULY 24, 1990: Iraqi forces start massing on the Kuwait/Iraq border.
METRO NEWS SERVICES

INSTRUCTIONS:
The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

previous day's answer

2	8	9	1	5	7	3	4	6
6	5	3	9	8	4	7	1	2
4	1	7	6	3	2	5	9	8
5	2	1	4	7	6	9	8	3
3	6	8	5	2	9	4	7	1
9	7	4	8	1	3	6	2	5
1	3	5	7	4	8	2	6	9
7	9	2	3	6	1	8	5	4
8	4	6	2	9	5	1	3	7

SOLVE TIME IN MINUTES:
Under 13 . . . . . Genius
13-17 . . . . . Scholar
17-21 . . . . . Smart
21-25 . . . . . Not bad
25+ . . . . . Keep practising

1			7		8			
8	3						5	6
	4			2		1		
	9		3	5				1
		3				4		
2				4	6		9	
		9		7			2	
6	5						1	7
			4		3			5

Toronto weather

Afternoon	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
60%			80%	
Thunder-showers. 22°	Thunder-showers. 15°	Variable. 26°/18°	Thunder-showers. 27°/17°	Partly cloudy. 25°/16°

The Weather Network theweathernetwork.com

Temperature Normals
High: 27.5°
Low: 15°

Records
High: 34.7°/1999
Low: 8.5°/1985

Sunrise: 5:59 a.m.
Sunset: 8:49 p.m.
Moonset: 12:51 p.m.
Moonrise: 11:34 p.m.

TWN incorporates MSC data

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Rowling's regret

Author J.K. Rowling says she regrets she never told her mother about her famous creation, Harry Potter. Rowling began work on her tales of the apprentice wizard six months before her mother Anne, who had multiple sclerosis, died. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

Celebrity Buzz

Barrymore may still love her ex

FEELINGS FOR THE EX Drew Barrymore is still in love with her ex-boyfriend, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress, who recently split from her latest suitor Justin Long, reportedly initiated the breakup because she couldn't stop thinking about former lover, The Strokes drummer Fabrizio Moretti.

"Drew just couldn't get Fabrizio out of her mind," a source said. "She says Justin was great, but what she had with him just wasn't as strong."

Barrymore, who dated the rocker for five years, has remained in contact with Moretti since they separated and reportedly feels ready to settle down and start a family with him.

The source added to National Enquirer magazine: "Drew told me, 'I want kids, and I want them pretty soon, and the more I am away from Fabrizio, the more I realize he is the one.'" **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Winehouse wants 5 kids

BABIES Amy Winehouse has revealed she wants at least five children and twins, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer insists she and husband Blake Fielder-Civil, who this week was sentenced to 27 months in prison for grievous bodily harm and perverting the course of justice, are ready to start their family.

"I love kids," she said. "To be honest, I think kids have got a lot more going on than adults. They've got their heads screwed on a lot better. Blake and I can't wait to have kids. I want at least five kids, and I want twins. Blake is going to be the most amazing dad. When Blake was about we talked about it all the time. We'd like to have identical twins. Blake had a dream that we had a girl who was dark like me. I had a dream that I had one older, like 18 months, dark like me and identical twin babies." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Locklear back home

TREATMENT After successfully completing four weeks of treatment for anxiety and depression, Heather Locklear is back home, People.com reports.

"Heather's feeling really great," says a close friend. "And she looks beautiful, just radiant."

While the actress' recovery is "a work in progress," Locklear seems rejuvenated, says the friend. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Wentz gets fatherly advice

PREP Pete Wentz has been taking fatherhood advice from his dad and father-in-law, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Fall Out Boy rocker and new wife Ashlee Simpson are expecting their first child together and Pete has been talking to Joe Simpson and his pop Pete to make sure he is fully prepared for the arrival. He told OK! magazine: "I'm reading all the books. The best one I've read so far is The Expectant Father.

"I'm talking to my dad a lot. I'm talking to Ashlee's dad a lot. We hang out with other people who have kids. You see the world in a different way. It's exciting."

The bassist also spoke about his friends' response to the pregnancy.

"My friends are all really excited for me," he added. "Our drummer Andy Hurley was the first to respond to anything. I sent out the e-mail for my wedding and Andy responded seven minutes later like, 'I'll be there and these are the sizes of my clothes.'" **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Maggie Gyllenhaal reads no evil

MEDIA Maggie Gyllenhaal has vowed never to read articles printed about her in a bid to protect herself from harsh media criticism, imdb.com reports.

"The amount of scrutiny can be unbearable," she said. "It's sometimes really hurtful." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

celebrity briefs

'Supermodel' is overused: Naomi

TITLE Model Naomi Campbell has hit out at the current batch of "supermodels," insisting Gisele Bundchen was the last runway queen to deserve the title, imdb.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Memoirs postponed for Downey Jr.

TELL-ALL Robert Downey Jr. has returned the advance on his memoirs after postponing plans for a tell-all, femalefirst.co.uk reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Dancing labour
Actor Matthew McConaughey danced during his girlfriend Camila Alves' labour, and even played Brazilian music to keep her entertained. Alves gave birth to Levi Alves on July 7 and McConaughey was on hand to ease her through her labour pains. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Smith makes the big money

CHEQUES Will Smith has topped a list of Hollywood's highest paid actors, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Hancock star — who has made $80 million US in the last year — became the first ever actor to have eight consecutive movies break the $100-million mark at the box office.

His earnings caused him to shoot to the top of Forbes magazine's list, ahead of Johnny Depp, who earned $72 million.

Eddie Murphy and Mike Myers came joint third with earnings of $55 million each, and Leonardo DiCaprio rounded off the Top 5 after making $45 million last year. Bruce Willis proves he still has the potential to be a huge box-office star after coming sixth in the list with earnings of $41 million. He was closely followed by comedian Ben Stiller and Nicolas Cage, who made $40 million and $31 million respectively. The Top 10 was rounded off by funnyman Will Ferrell, who earned $31 million, and Adam Sandler with earnings of $30 million.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Brit's smokes getting into son's hands

SMOKE Britney Spears' parenting skills have come under fire again after she was caught exposing her son to second-hand smoke, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The pop star was photographed with her two-year-old son Sean Preston on Sunday as he attempted to play with his mom's cigarettes.

Spears is seen in the photos standing in a bikini next to Sean as she lights up. The toddler holds a lighter in one hand and reaches for a pack of his mother's Marlboros with the other.

Taken from Spears' Beverly Hills, Calif., home, Spears is snapped reaching down for the pack to stop her son taking them.

Studies have proven links between second-hand smoke and childhood illnesses, including ear infections, bronchitis, asthma and other respiratory ailments.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Miley talks photos

PEOPLE Miley Cyrus is continuing to speak out about her infamous Vanity Fair photos, usmagazine.com reports. She called the shots "a mistake" during an interview on ABC's Good Morning America recently. "I think I was just in a stage where I was just trying to get things done, and maybe look for an older audience," the 15-year-old said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Dickinson gets drive-and-talk traffic ticket

PEOPLE Janice Dickinson has become the first celebrity victim of California's new phone-and-driving law, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

As of July 1, motorists in the state were banned from using cellphones while driving and the 53-year-old ex-supermodel picked up a ticket on Hollywood's Sunset Boulevard on Tuesday.

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celebrity brief

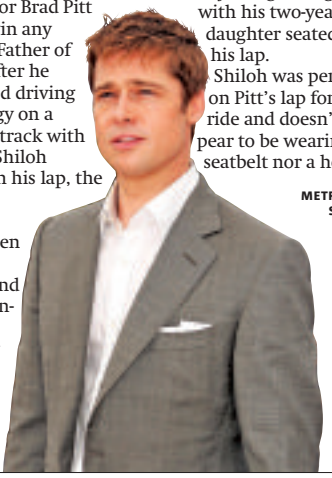
Pitt's questionable fathering methods

SHILOH Actor Brad Pitt may not win any prizes for Father of the Year after he was spotted driving a golf buggy on a quad bike track with daughter Shiloh perched on his lap, the Daily Mail reports.

Pitt was seen out with sons Pax and Maddox enjoying a family day out at a quad bike track in Miraval. But the 44-year-old was criticized after he was seen leading the way in a golf buggy with his two-year-old daughter seated on his lap.

Shiloh was perched on Pitt's lap for the ride and doesn't appear to be wearing a seatbelt nor a helmet.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



celebrity brief

Moss tries to save her relationship

PEOPLE Kate Moss and her rocker boyfriend Jamie Hince have flown out to a secret location in a bid to save their relationship, the Daily Mirror reports. The couple have been on rocky ground recently.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

celebrity brief

Lauren Conrad has diva bout

PEOPLE The Hills star Lauren Conrad pulled a diva act at a charity event last week by arriving late and not talking to reporters, PageSix.com reports.

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Cash Purchase Price

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GL Sport model shown

2008 Elantra L

Limited model shown

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Cash Purchase Price

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HWY 6.0L/100KM • 47 MPG‡
CITY 8.4L/100KM • 34 MPG‡

‡Approximate distance based on highway mileage.

2008 Tiburon GS

GTP model shown

$18,995 Starting Price♦
-$3,000 Cash Purchase Adjustment

$15,995♦
Cash Purchase Price

USE LESS & SAVE
GO 775 KM ON ONE TANK‡
HWY 7.1L/100KM • 40 MPG‡
CITY 10.2L/100KM • 28 MPG‡

‡Approximate distance based on highway mileage.

2008 Tucson L

Limited 4WD model shown

$21,195 Starting Price♦
-$4,200 Cash Purchase Adjustment

$16,995♦
Cash Purchase Price

USE LESS & SAVE
GO 744 KM ON ONE TANK‡
HWY 7.8L/100KM • 36 MPG‡
CITY 10.4L/100KM • 27 MPG‡

‡Approximate distance based on highway mileage.

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